



SOCCER ACTION

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While the end-of-summer clearance sale at Hakoah continues in full swing, Willie Herd jets in from Glasgow to bolster the Melbourne Croatia midfield and Jim MacLean could be heading back to Morwell Falcons.

Herd, the Partick Thistle star, arrives this morning (Thursday) and will be in Croatia's line-up tomorrow against St. George at St George Stadium.

Salts coach Frank Ark was trying to sign Steve O'Connor and Abbas Saad from Hakoah as we went to press. If he succeeds they both should be rushed into the starting line-up and the dominant figure of former Soccerroo O'Connor certainly will stiffen St. George's defence while the subtle skills and sharpness of Saad will give Ark's outfit a lot more bite going forward.

MacLean, the former Brisbane Lions, Morwell Falcons and Croydon midfielder, signed earlier this year by Croatia, reportedly is unhappy with life in Melbourne and wants to return to Morwell. That would be a blow to the quality and depth of coach Terry Hennessy's first team squad but Herd's credentials suggest that he could comfortably slot into MacLean's play-

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

maker's role.

Andy Humble, who joined MacLean this year in the move from Croydon to Croatia, also wants to leave. Humble at first wanted to join Preston Makedonia and Croatia officials tried to arrange a swap between Humble and

transfer listed Makedonia player Graham Heys. That fell through. Croatia claims that Makedonia wouldn't budge from its asking price of \$7,500 for Heys.

Now Humble wants to return to Croydon which has negotiated a loan deal with Croatia but that move also is up in the air thanks to the VSF which claims that Humble can't have a second transfer this season.

Does that mean that Humble must cool his heels throughout this season? If it does then it is an indictment of rules which are so inflexible that they can arrest a player's development.

Croatia however, is getting on with the business of strengthening its squad and was expected to reach terms with Kiwi international goalie Clint Gosling as we went to press. Gosling joined the now defunct Hakoah from New-

castle Rosebuds earlier this year.

Even with O'Connor and Saad in its line-up, St. George will struggle to topple Croatia.

The clash on Sunday at Olympic Sports Field between Adelaide Juventus and Marconi should be a beauty.

Marconi strengthened its midfield last Friday with the signing of Tom McCulloch from Hakoah for \$25,000 and he starred in Marconi's win over St. George last weekend. But the youth and senior Soccerroo was Marconi's only effective midfielder in a display which displeased coach Roberto Vieri.

"I was very unhappy with the way we played, especially in the first half. We lacked midfield control," said Marconi boss.

Zlatko Nastevski has come on as a substitute in Marconi's first two league games this season and has done well so he's overdue for a berth in the starting line-up. Sunday may be the day Vieri gives the talented Nastevski a chance to show off his skills for 90 minutes.

Adelaide Juventus completely dominated the first half of its 2-2 draw with APIA but fell away in the latter stages. That must be a worry to coach Zoran Matkic who, before the season kicked off, expressed doubts about the

ability of his 1986 national championship winning side to work out on-field problems during its pre-season build-up.

Aurelio Vidmar and the elusive Charley Villani were Juve's scorers against APIA and no doubt Vieri will instruct his men not to give them too much latitude.

If Juve puts it together throughout the contest, it will be more than a match for Marconi though which is having problems producing a finely drilled team unit.

Footscray JUST was hoping to have Oscar Crino in its side when it squares up to South Melbourne Hellas at Schintler Reserve on Sunday.

JUST hopes soon to field a mid-field of Oscar Crino and Radivojevic lack fitness but once this midfield combination knits together JUST will be on its way.

Bozhinovski will be back in action following his sending-off in the opening match of the league campaign against Preston Makedonia and the former Hellas player will be out to prove a point here.

However, Hellas goes into the match as favorite. Despite the presence of quality players like Tyrone James, Tom Karic and Eddie Campbell in the JUST defence, the home side will be hard pressed to keep Charlie Egan, Danny

Wright and Danny Crainie at bay while Paul Wade's ability to ghost into dangerous position inside the JUST area will pose plenty of problems for goalkeeper Zoran Nikitovic.

Sunshine George Cross will tread warily on Sunday, hoping to get out of the lion's den relatively unscathed. Cross travels to the Croatian Sports Centre to take on league leader Sydney Croatia which has scored 14 goals in just two games and already looms as the team to beat this year.

The Melbourne outfit, superbly drilled by coach John Gardiner, will place emphasis on pressuring Croatia and trying to stifle the flair and creativity which is Croatia's hallmark.

Can Cross close down Croatia well enough to achieve a point here?

I doubt it.

Robbie Slater, Zarko Odzakovic and Graeme Arnold are in superb touch and loom as the main dangers to George Cross.

Croatia should win, even though Hakoah's exit from the West End NSL gave Gardiner an extra week to try and solve the problems so evident in Cross's 3-0 loss to South Melbourne Hellas in the first round of the season.

Heidelberg, Alexander clashes with APIA at Olympic Village on Sunday while Brunswick Juventus tackles Sydney Olympic at Olympic Park No. 1.

Heidelberg coach John Margaritis achieved immediate success when he pushed little Peter Tselakis forward to line up for the first time every goal as Heidelberg convincingly accounted for JUST 3-4.

And Margaritis's first big signing for Heidelberg — Scott Fraser from Green Gully — made a dream debut by scoring a cracking, long range goal in the first half.

APIA could be without striker Hilton Phillips who suffered a badly gashed foot against Adelaide Juventus but Rasic still can call on men of quality in Rod Brown and Gary Ward to fly APIA's flag up front.

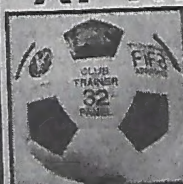
A draw wouldn't surprise.

Continued page 5



● Preston Makedonia fans haven't had a lot to shout about this year so you can understand the jubilation of this ground official who joins midfielder Zoran Ilioski in celebrating Makedonia's second goal against South Melbourne Hellas last Sunday. Makedonia won the match 2-1. For all the reports from last weekend's big games in the 1987 West End NSL turn to pages 6 & 7. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

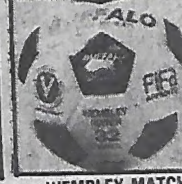
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Juve 'Bad boy' lites out at Heidelberg



● Scott Patterson: "I didn't really put in 100 percent at Heidelberg. I was bloody casual."

His mates call him "SP". He's the president of the Brunswick Juventus players' singles club (Joe Palatsides lost the vice-presidency when he "fell in love") and "SP" is a bit of a boyo, let me tell you.

I hear that Scott Patterson holds the pot-skulling record at his former club Heidelberg and there were times when some of his off-field exploits were legend.

He's been called a "bad boy" in a prominent Melbourne newspaper and his red hair and North Irish genealogy suggest that there's plenty of fire in his soul.

Listen to him talking about his three-year stint with Heidelberg:

"There were times when you had to wait for weeks to get your money and there were plenty of dissatisfied boys there, let me tell you."

"It's different at Juventus. Joe Caruso is the man who makes the place tick. He even says to you if you have any problems come up to him and let him know. At Heidelberg they didn't want to hear about your problems."

"To be honest I didn't really put in 100 percent at Heidelberg. I was bloody casual. My attitude's changed a lot at Juventus. Len McKendry's put that right — not by doing anything in particular — just by being McKendry."

Patterson never got on with former Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey, now with South Melbourne Hellas.

"I reckon Garvey didn't like me. I reckon he rated me a bit as a player though but he couldn't get the best out of me. Frankly it was bloody magic to get away."

"Listen to this one. The day after I joined Juventus after going to the appeals board twice and finally getting their ridiculous transfer fee of \$15,000 knocked down to \$5,500, Garvey rings me up and asks me why I left. I could have abused him. I didn't. I just said that I'm a Juventus player now and that's all there is to it and ended the bloody conversation there."

Early last month Juventus played a friendly game against Victorian club Holland Park. That was when Patterson, essentially used as a left sided attacking player throughout

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

his career, found himself lining up on the right of Juve's midfield, a role he thoroughly enjoys.

"Last year at Juventus Robbie Cullen was on the left and I was up front. When the club bought Sean Lane this year McKendry at first wanted to play on the left of midfield with Robbie to the left against Holland Park and used me on the right and it worked well."

Just ask Marconi how well it works. Juventus completely dominated the Sydneysiders in the opening round of the 1987 West End NSW two weeks ago.

"I couldn't believe the pace I got in the first minute of that game. I just held my position out wide and suddenly I'm clear inside their area. I should have bloody scored."

"I reckon the Sydney teams don't close down and pressure as well as we do. We used to watch them last year on the TV and we couldn't believe the room those guys got up there."

"I think Marconi expected to come down here and be allowed to play but we don't allow anyone to play."

Patterson reckons that he's set for a big year in 1987.

"Yeah, I feel pretty good about this year. I think we're going to have a good season and I like playing out wide. It gives me more of a chance to run at defenders which is what I like the way I received the ball and my general understanding of what was going on around me."

"Sean (Lane) and big (Vlatko) Belic will do well for us this year. I know what it was like for Sean early on getting used to the way McKendry wants to play but he's improving his fitness level as every week goes by and once he's really buzzing you'll see a top attacking combination in him and Andrew Zini."

"Belic, like Sean, wasn't fit when he joined us but he's improving in that area too and I reckon the big bloke can do a job for us."

And Patterson meanwhile will be doing a job on a few defenders as he gallops towards them like a steam train, using the tremendous running power he possesses which has gone to waste for far too long.



● Alex Robertson: "If it had been up to us things would have remained as they were. But it wasn't up to us."

Robertson: Thomson the best I've seen

By
JOHN
MANGAN

Few people were more affected by the turmoil at Sydney Hakoah than Alex Robertson whose connection with the club goes back to 1974.

The Scottish defender had been with the club for many of its triumphs including Hakoah's championship in the first-ever national league in 1977.

"A lot of us have a sentimental attachment to the club, and if it had been up to us things would have remained as they were," he says. "But it wasn't up to us."

Robertson is not the only long server at the club. Both Murray Barnes and Steve O'Connor were at Hakoah when he joined and all of them suddenly found themselves being granted free transfers last week.

While Barnes and O'Connor were with the club continuously since 1974 Robertson returned to Scotland in 1978 and spent three years there before deciding to return here.

"I phoned up Eddie (Thompson) when I decided to head back to Australia and he said there was still a place for me here."

The Hakoah club's decision last week that it could not afford the \$300,000 plus necessary to field a successful soccer side this season and subsequent withdrawal from the

National League was as much a shock to Robertson as it was for all soccer fans.

He attributes the club's situation to general economic trends.

"There's just not as much money around as there used to be. The club has always had diverse interests, putting its money into other areas and decided that it could not afford to sponsor the soccer team for more than \$250,000 this year. Unlike a lot of clubs we don't have large crowd support and while some clubs can make a lot of money at the gate we have virtually no income from that source."

Born in Edinburgh, Robertson supported Hearts as a boy but began his top-class career with Dundee. He came out to Australia and then returned after four years to play with Dunfermline and decide where he wanted to make his permanent home.

Choosing Australia brought him back into contact with Eddie Thompson, a coach Robertson rates extremely highly.

"Of all the coaches I've come into contact with in my time here, he is the most knowledgeable on tactics and just the way the game should be played."

EDDIE'S TAKING THINGS EASY

Eddie Thomson is not straining at the leash to secure a new club.

The big Scot is currently winding up the affairs of Sydney Hakoah and said: "It will take two or three weeks to clear things up."

The club is determined to do the right thing by the players, so I want to get them settled in elsewhere.

"There isn't anyone of them in the squad who is below National League standard."

"For example, I haven't seen defender Steve O'Connor in better form. He has been swimming and cross country running as part of a special education teacher's course and he is super fit."

"Along with Murray Barnes, Ian Souness and Alex Robertson, he will have a free transfer to wherever he wants to go."

"As soon as the club's affairs are straightened out my wife and I will hop on a plane for Queensland to enjoy a week's break in the sun."

He is relieved that the Hakoah episode is at an end.

"I've been through all sorts of trials since I began as a professional in Edinburgh at the age of 17."

"The Sydney City situation is one which I unfortunately have to take in my stride."

"It was a very difficult task to motivate the players to give their best in front of crowd that were limited at times to a couple of hundred people."

"Now I need a short break to take stock of my position."

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TO THE EDITOR

SIR —
After reading Andrew Dettre's column last week and his scathing attack on my character and ability, I feel a need to reply to you to let you know a little bit about myself.

I came out from Scotland at the age of eight and learned all my soccer in Western Australia. All I have ever dreamed of is playing for Australia, and I have moved away from my family to do so.

I have played for five years in the National League and have won the club Fairst and Best awards in three of those five years (not bad for a run-of-the-mill player). In case you don't already know, you don't win those awards if you get sent off, and may I state now that I have never been sent off in all of my soccer career.

I have been labelled by my coaches along the way as "gentle" or "gentle giant" or not aggressive enough. I do not brag about the infamous tackle I did on Lamond in that game, nor am I proud of it. It happened in a flash and I would never mean to hurt or maim anyone intentionally.

I really feel sorry for you Mr Dettre as your outlook on life must be pretty dim if your columns are anything to go by. I used to read them until I got sick of your continual whingeing and detrimental statements to Australian soccer, and if it wasn't your power (thank god it isn't) Australian soccer would have died years ago.

I also feel sorry for Emery, Kamasz, Reilly, Lederer and Taubman who are breaking their necks trying to get sponsorships and generally trying to improve the game only to be knocked by armchair critics like yourself.

Why don't you change now before you are too old and put something into the game instead of predicting doom and gloom for all of us.

Incidentally, I noticed a Sydney City player were sent off that weekend but I saw no mention of it in your column.

By the way, if you ever finish with "Soccer Action" I know a few people who would be interested in pessimists, like yourself, in sport.

NEC to back Everton clash?

The VSF is trying to clinch a sponsorship deal with NEC for the promotion of the Everton v. Australia game at Olympic Park on Wednesday, June 3.

NEC sponsors Everton, which currently is challenging for the English First Division championship.

The VSF sees the Everton game as a great chance to re-establish its reputation as the most successful organiser of overseas tours in Australia.

The Everton-Australia clash is being co-promoted by the VSF and the Auckland Football Association which is celebrating its centenary year.

The VSF needs a crowd of about 12,000 for the Olympic Park match in order to break even. Everton will receive about \$45,000 for the game and on top of that the VSF has to pay part

By
**CRAIG
MACKENZIE**

of Everton's accommodation costs.

Clinching a deal with NEC for all the promotional aspects of the match would be a second major coup for the VSF which already has signed up David Robb to handle the sale of signage at Olympic Park for the big clash.

VSF chairman Jack Reilly is the instigator of the sponsorship drive which is the first time the federation has made such a move for an international fixture.

"At the last ASF World Cup committee meeting I raised the possibility of the VSF organising tours like they had done so successfully in the past," said Reilly.

"I think the days of private promoters are just about finished. The VSF has a proven track record in this field and it's about time that people who know that the ball is round are given the responsibility of arranging tours by overseas teams."

The Everton game is the VSF's first venture into that area since Westford played Victoria back in 1983. The VSF made an \$8,000 profit from the match.

The biggest money-spinner for the federation was the first tour by the New York Cosmos. The second Cosmos tour lost money, only the second time that occurred between 1971 and 1983. Red Star Belgrade, for example, earned the VSF \$29,000 during its first visit here in the 1970s.

In all, the VSF has made just over \$250,000

from overseas tours since 1971 — a record unmatched by any other State federation.

The now dormant marketing arm of the ASF took over the responsibility for all tours by overseas clubs and countries towards the end of 1983, thereby effectively closing the door on a major source of income for the VSF.

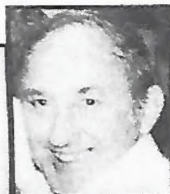
The Socceros will pay their own travel costs for the Olympic Park clash. The VSF will pay accommodation costs and national team player wages for two days.

Reilly is confident that the game will be a huge success.

"Just think, we could have the English First Division champions on show in Melbourne and it will be the last chance for the soccer public to view the Socceros before they head off to Seoul for the President's Cup. That looks like a pretty good drawcard to me," he said.

Soccer should go back to the schools

THE
ANDREW
DETTRE COLUMN



Soccer in this country — or any other country, for that matter — will never be a "national sport" until it has gained a very firm, preferably dominant role in high schools.

The game must have this vast and rich hinterland in order to produce tomorrow's players, coaches, officials — and spectators.

At present, soccer has made only partial, in some cases token inroads in schools.

The importance of being No. 1 sport in high schools cannot be emphasised enough. It's the No. 1 football code which has first choice of talent among the boys — usually selecting the majority of "football types" — the strongest, fastest, cleverest and keenest.

Soccer, along with other sports, come next. Of course, quite a lot of naturally gifted youngsters still end up playing soccer in schools (especially migrant kids) — but the fact remains that the cream has been skimmed off by other football codes — rugby, Aussie Rules, etc.

In every country of the world where soccer is the major sport, there are two rich sources of talent: the streets and the schools.

In places like South America (especially Brazil), Africa and parts of Asia, the vast reservoir of the game comes from a "street culture". In most European countries "park football" has been replaced by vast networks of school competitions.

In Australia, we have neither — at least on a sizeable scale.

All this should be pretty obvious to our leading administrators. Perhaps it is. But I fear it is not.

Precious little is being done to rectify the situation. It's a gigantic task, that would take huge sums of money and many years of hard labor.

So we prefer to ignore it. It is a humanly understandable trait that you tinker with smaller problems which carry the promise of early solution; if not a solution, at least a measure of temporary glitter.

So all or most of soccer's efforts are poured into two highly visible areas: the Socceros and the NSL.

The Socceros titillate the national ego and are the only surefire way of getting major media attention.

Whether they win or lose, reach the World Cup finals or fail, is of little importance for the future of the game here — as we have been after 1974

and as others, such as North Korea, Israel, Iran and New Zealand have also experienced following their fleeting moments of glory.

The NSL is a different proposition: it is the peak of the iceberg — without any real iceberg below. Yet it is necessary, an elite competition to satisfy those soccer aficionados — many ethnic — who like to watch the game at the highest available level.

However, by now there must be volumes of evidence to prove that without proper hinterland — namely: high schools where soccer is No. 1 sport — neither the Socceros nor the NSL can hope to achieve real relevance.

I have no illusions about this: it would be a colossal job to change the situation. It could take 10 years, maybe 20; it may not even be possible.

No wonder all our soccer administrations have avoided

this problem. But I really feel that sooner or later, soccer will be forced, through repeated failure, to examine its true resources and work out some sort of master-plan which, at long last, would provide the game with the necessary foundations: tens of thousands of organised and coached schoolboys — who want to play soccer and aren't just forced to, after being rejected by other codes.

Money could be one problem. It's one thing to persuade a sponsor to cough up a hundred grand or more for the high-profile national team and quite another thing to get them to buy 25,000 quality soccer balls for schools.

Yet I think such a vast project is not only possible but should be attempted, utilising all the organisational and coaching resources of the state federations, amateur organisations and juniors.

FA Cup on ABC

ABC-TV has confirmed it will present a live satellite telecast of the 1987 English FA Cup Final on Saturday, May 16.

Recent negotiations between the network and the independent broadcaster Skychannel have resulted in ABC-TV gaining access to this year's final.

Skychannel obtained the Australian transmission rights to the 1987 FA Cup Final and will beam the game, via its own satellite network, to clubs and hotels across the nation.

While this created an initial threat to

Australian television audiences seeing this year's final — one of the world's major sporting spectacles — ABC-TV continued discussions with Skychannel to ensure a live telecast for viewers.

The final, to be played at London's Wembley Stadium on Saturday, May 16, will be televised live in over 50 countries. ABC-TV's coverage will commence at 10.30pm with a preview of the game and the competing teams. The satellite telecast will begin at around 11.45pm (AEST).

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© George Cross, back row: Andrew Marth, John Campelli, Don MacLaren, Paul Trimball, Andy Edwards, Tom Markovski. Middle row: Steve Richardson, Shaun Parton, John Markovski, Sean Keogh, Kevin Innes, Carl Gilder, Noel Mitten. Front row: Roger Bain, Chris Taylor, Jeff Faulkner, Richard Falzon, Robert Markovac. Missing: Lou Kastner. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Parton: We were garbage!

Shaun Parton pumps iron most days, is always pumped up when he runs onto the pitch and pumps out his disgust at George Cross' display against South Melbourne Hellas the other week like an angry geyser.

"We were a bloody disaster. Normally, if one of or two guys are playing poorly, you can cover for it, but there's nothing you can do when you've got 10 bad players," said Parton.

"Danny Cranlie's hardly got a kick against us in the past, but him and Postecoglou ran riot and Hellas got out of their back four far too easily.

"The only bloke in our side that you could excuse is Sean Keogh who made some excellent saves and really, was a bit unlucky to walk off the pitch with three goals chalked up against him. But the rest of us were garbage."

Parton and his team mates didn't have a chance to stone last weekend as Hakoah's withdrawal from the West End NSL left George Cross with a bye.

So, we'll have to wait till this weekend to see if the men of George Cross can live up to the high expectations of their staunch band of supporters.

"I think we came down to earth with a bang against Hellas. Everyone was staggered really, because you just don't score three goals against George Cross.

Maybe some of us thought that we were a bit better than we really are. I don't know. I certainly think that we're a good side and before the Hellas game I expected us to do well. We've made some really good signings this year."

The players Parton is referring to are Paul Trimball and Robert Markovac, signed on free transfers. Trimball already is one of the stars of the National Youth Team, while Markovac was one of the finest teenage talents Parton had ever seen. They played together at Melbourne Croatia a few seasons ago.

"When Robbie was 16 I said that he was the best youngster I'd ever seen and Trimball is an unbelievably good prospect. We've been really lucky to get them for nothing, in fact John Gardner (the George Cross coach) has been very shrewd with his signings over the past couple of seasons. I think I'm his most expensive signing and I only cost \$3000, which is peanuts in the National League nowadays."

Indeed, Parton's contract with George Cross expires this year and he's got a maximum transfer fee of \$10,000 on his head. He's just 25 and his strength, pace and tremendous competitiveness make him one of the finest central defenders in the league.

He's one of the main men George Cross fans will look to this season as the side tries to not only establish itself in the revamped NSL but also aims for a finals berth.

By
JOHN
MANGAN

A four-month saga came to an end last Friday when Heidelberg and Green Gully finally agreed terms for the transfer of Scottish full-back or midfielder Scott Fraser to the Bergers for \$7,000.

Heidelberg and a couple of other clubs had been courting the former Glasgow Rangers player since last December but Gully dampened their enthusiasm by slapping a \$25,000 fee on his head.

However, as Gully's Victorian State League chasing team began to take shape the club agreed to let Fraser go.

"I told the club that I wanted to play in the National League this year, just as any player would and they came round to my way of thinking."

Leaving a club which has established itself as favorite for this season's Buffalo State League — and indeed for promotion back to the National League next year — Fraser is now settling in at a club which has experienced a managerial shake-up in the last few weeks.

New Coach John Margaritis has made it his top priority since taking over the reins from Roy MacLaren, who had to retire for business reasons, to trim Heidelberg's large squad and when one of Heidelberg's three visa spots became available he snapped up Fraser.

"I've been impressed so far by Margaritis' thoroughness. He has talked to all the players letting them know exactly what he wants, and everybody seems to be responding and putting in the effort for him," said Fraser.

"Heidelberg is an ambitious club and the people here will be doing everything they can to win the league this season. There's no shortage of talent. Obviously Jeff Oliver is outstanding — he's 100 percent dedicated and he has so much experience."

"The defence is very strong with Alan Hunter and Theo Selemidis and up front there's a



© Scott Fraser

bit of skill as well. I used to play against Laurie McKinnis back in Scotland when he was with Kilmarnock."

"Another of the forwards I like is Peter Tsoiakis. I played against him last year and he really is a very tricky customer — and very quick."

Fraser came to Australia in March last year to join Green Gully which at the time was coached by George Murray.

Both Brisbane City and West Adelaide Hellas had approached Fraser when he decided to try his luck overseas

but his former coach at Rangers, Jock Wallace, recommended he join Murray, who was an old friend of his.

"Obviously last year for Gully was a bit of a disaster. We were unlucky in the first six or seven games where we would either draw or lose by one goal. Once you're on the bottom it's hard to climb back. The club hoped to finish higher and cement its place in the smaller National League this year but we ended up on the bottom."

"By the end of the season Gus (MacLeod) was coaching us and he put a lot of emphasis on doing well in the Docketry Cup, which we went on to win."

MacLeod has kept most of last year's team together and strengthened it with the acquisition of another Scottish import, Joe O'Donnell, and former Brunswick Juventus striker Joe Sweeney.

They're a good bunch of boys and it's a very close-knit club at Gully. There's a good relationship between Gus and the players. They're aiming to return to the National League and the attitude seems to be right. The team has come back from being a goal down a number of times already this season and if things continue to go as they have done then they should get promoted."

Fraser's closest connection with Australia before travelling out here was with Davie Mitchell when the Soccerro forward was with Rangers.

"I can see why his Australian friends like him so much — both on and off the pitch. We had a few big nights out after games and he said to me one 'You know, your playing really reminds me of a mate of mine back in Australia.' But to this day I haven't found out who it is I reminded him of!"

Fraser joined Rangers when he turned 20 after two years with Haddington Athletic juniors. John Greig was the coach who signed him but it was his successor, Jock Wallace, who gave Fraser his break in the first team — though he played over 100 games in the second team.

"Playing at Rangers was a tremendous experience. The set-up there is amazing. Walking in is like walking into a museum — there is just so much

tradition. The way they approach the game is an education and stands you in good stead for the ups and downs of the game."

And what was it like when Rangers met old rival Glasgow Celtic?

"The atmosphere was unbelievable. I've been to some big games but even when Scotland played England at Hampden or Wembley it wasn't as big as those Glasgow derbies."

"I still keep in touch with players at Rangers. I was talking last week on the phone to Stewart Munro who was telling me the club is on cloud nine with its recent successes. The new coach Graeme Souness has really given the club a good shake-up with the signing of some top-class English players."

"Stewart in fact may come out to Australia some time in the future as he has married an Australian girl."

What is it that attracts so many Scots to Australia?

"Well, it can't be the weather," jokes Fraser, "not in Melbourne anyway! I don't really know what it is I came here with an open mind, just to see what it was like."

While shifting to Australia has obviously been a good move for the Scot, it has distanced him from his greatest fan and critic.

"My Dad has definitely been the biggest influence on my career. He used to go to every game I played as a boy and then he travelled all over Scotland watching me play with Rangers. We'd have some ding-dong arguments about the games I played and it usually turned out that he was right!"

"He was with Hibernian in the days of its notorious attack known as 'The Famous Five'. He is totally devoted to the game and now he goes to watch my brother who plays in the premier amateur division back home."

Fraser has clearly inherited his father's love of the game and is set to have a big year with his new club. Heidelberg has given the 23-year-old defender a chance to stay in the NSL, now he can pay Alexander back by bringing the club some league and cup glory."

There's talent galore for our World Cup campaign

Australia's next challenge for World Cup honors will be unique when compared with previous campaigns.

The reason is the pool of battle-hardened professionals from these shores now playing in tough European competition.

The biggest name is undoubtedly Craig Johnston of Liverpool fame, who left Australia as a humble Sydney Hakoah third grader and went on to become one of British football's most prominent and respected players.

But there are others, for instance Jimmy Patikas, a shining star with AEK in the Greek First Division, or David Mitchell of Eintracht Frankfurt, fully occupied in driving to distraction Bundesliga defenders.

Going a step further, there is Eddie Krncevic, a star striker in his own right with Belgian giant Anderlecht and Tony Dorigo of Aston Villa.

Quite a pool of experienced pros to supplement our home grown talent, but how many of them will wear the green-and-gold next year?

Their clubs permitting Mitchell and Patikas seem the most likely campaigners for the Soccerros.

Mitchell was always deadly serious about his international ambitions, even to the extent of playing for the Soccerros in Sydney against his club at the time, Glasgow Rangers — and it was a no-holds barred affair!

Patikas is another proud of his affiliations with this



starting player by the Soccerros more often than he has been!

It is odds-on that he won't be a substitute come 1988.

That leaves the other three. Dorigo has made it crystal clear that he isn't interested in representing the land of his birth and in view of his utter lack of expressed interest in this country's international campaigns, the sentiment should be reciprocated.

Soccerro boss Frank Arok is not one to chase reluctant prima donnas — however talented — and Dorigo is exhibiting all the symptoms.

Krncevic is another who, by his previous statements, seemed willing to keep his distance from our national side's campaign, but he is in a different category from Dorigo.

Eddie already has a Soccerro career behind him, with 33 appearances in the national team between 1979 and 1981, a relatively short period of time.

Later he carved out a distinguished career in Yugoslavia

Straight Shooting with PETER SCOTT

lines between Krncevic and Arok, accompanied by some rather unfortunate remarks from the player.

I, for one, am not aware of the roots of the problem between the two, but would be surprised if the obstacles were insurmountable.

Perhaps it would be worthwhile making an attempt at reconciliation.

Last, but not least, in this distinguished group we have Craig Johnston.

As of now, the Liverpool star will be available for the World Cup campaign, even though his club is somewhat unenthusiastic about the idea.

In the wake of Craig's recent efforts to break into the English and later the Scottish national squads, there have been some dissenting voices heard at this end of the globe.

The word 'mercenary' has been one used to describe him. Pretty silly when one considers that Johnston was willing to play for Australia before ever thinking of British honors.

Only some ASF administrative Pussfooting — amply

If the prodigal still wants to return to the fold — as is claimed now — let us be thankful that we will have the services of a fabulous talent at our disposal next year.

Last time we had a very good Soccerro team — with the help of Patikas, Mitchell, Krncevic and Johnston we can have a great one next time around.

World

West German keeper Toni Schumacher's world seemed to be in ruins just a couple of weeks ago.

Following the publication of his outspokenly honest — and therefore highly controversial — book, he was fired by the national team and his club, FC Koln.

But things are looking a bit better as of last week.

Player agents are treading on each other's toes in a rush to gain Schumacher's signature. They have come representing Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch and Italian clubs and — most interestingly — from Pal-

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WEST END NSL DETAILS

West End NSL Standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Syd. Croatia	2	0	0	2	10	4
Adel. Juventus	1	1	0	3	6	3
APIA Leichhardt	1	1	0	3	5	3
Preston Makedonia	1	1	0	1	2	3
S. Melb. Hellas	1	0	1	2	4	2
Marconi	1	0	1	2	3	2
Heidelberg	1	0	1	4	4	2
Brunswick Juventus	1	0	1	3	2	2
Melb. Croatia	1	0	1	6	3	2
Footscray JUST	0	1	1	3	0	1
Syd. Olympic	0	0	1	4	1	0
George Cross	0	0	1	3	0	0
St. George	0	0	2	5	1	0

HEIDELBERG 3 (Fraser 39th, Selemidis 74th, Tsolakis 80th) FOOTSCRAY JUST 0 at Olympic Village. Crowd: 3000 (estimate).

HEIDELBERG Oliver 5 - Kanesoulis 5, Ketsakidis 6, Hunter 5, Merley 5 - Selemidis 5, Fraser 5, Lucchesi 7, Anastasiadis 5 - Tsolakis 6, McKinnis 5. Coach: John Margaritis

FOOTSCRAY JUST Nikovic 4 - Van Egmond 5 (Banjartarevic 74th), Kanc 6, James 4, Campbell 6, Lazopoulos 4, Curovic 4, Tapa 3, Radijevic 3 (Burak 55th), Latif 3, Spink 3. Coach: Drago Sekularac

Best six: 6. Lucchesi (H), 5. Kanc (F), 4. Ketsakidis (H), 3. Campbell (F), 2. Tsolakis (H), 1. Kanesoulis (H)

MARCONI 2 (Nastevski 52nd, Farina 72nd) ST GEORGE 0 at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 1707.

MARCONI Catlin 7 - Carter 7, Henderson 6, Sterrey 6, Wheatley 6 - Mason 6, Lowe 6, Carbone 6 (Nastevski 49th), 7. McCulloch 7 - Farina 6, Maxwell 6 (Gunning 60th). Coach: Roberto Vieri

ST. GEORGE Gibson 6 - Green 7, Kulcar 7, O'Shea 6, Slavski 6 - Ricoy 5, Moffitt 6, Porter 7, Petkovski 5 (Ollerenshaw 61st), Koczka 6 (Owens 73rd), Fletcher 5. Coach: Frank Arok

Best six: 6. McCulloch (M), 5. Kulcar (SG), 4. Carter (M), 3. Porter (SG), 2. Catlin (M), 1. Nastevski (M)

APIA 2 (Zajmi 76th, Brown 87th) ADELAIDE-JUVENTUS 2 (Vidmar 2nd, Villani 15th) at Lambert Park. Crowd: 2115.

APIA Pezzano 7 - Yankos 6 - M Brown 7, Bertogna 8, Tredinnick 6 - Zaimi 7, Burdalo 7, Lorens 6 (Brady 46th, Ward 71st), Butler 6 - Phillips 6, R Brown 7. Coach: Rale Rasic

AD JUVENTUS McNally 8 - Shillabeer 7, Nyskohus 7, Flounders 8, Tobin 8 - Villani 7, Santrao 6, Mella 7, Mullen 6 - Wilde 6, Vidmar 7. Coach: Zoran Matic

Best six: 6. Flounders (AJ), 5. Bertogna (AJ), 4. Tobin (AJ), 3. McNally (AJ), 2. R Brown (AJ), 1. Vidmar (AJ)

MELBOURNE CROATIA 2 (Cullen own goal 4th, Wallace 68th) BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 0 at Olympic Park. Crowd: about 2,500.

MELBOURNE CROATIA Runje 6 - McIntosh 7, Davidson 7, Dunn 8 - Blakie 7, MacLean 5 (Humble 79th), Campbell 5, Lemazina 6, Scott 6 - Paul Lewis 5, Wallace 5. Coach: Terry Hennessy

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS Marrama 6 - Peter Lewis 5, Yzendoorn 5 (sent off 90th), Brown 5, Incantalupo 5 - Patterson 5, Durakovic 6, Grbac 5 (Balic 57th), Cullen 5 - Zinni 4, Lane 4. Coach: Len McKendry

Best six: 6. Dunn (MC), 5. McIntosh (MC), 4. Blakie (MC), 3. Davidson (MC), 2. Scott (MC), 1. Durakovic (B)

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Smith 39th, Ilioski 51st) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Egan 70th).

PRESTON Traianes 6 - McLennan 5, Piculovski 4, Jackson 5, Opasina 6 - Stewart 8, Campbell 7, Tasevski 5, (Jolevski 69th), Ilioski 6 - Smith 3, Gojovic 3. Coach: Bill Murray

SOUTH MELBOURNE Laumets 2 - Russell 4, McDowall 4, Blair 4, Postecoglou 5 - Miranda 6, Wade 5, Stevenson 5, Cranie 4 (Murphy 55.5) - Wright 5, Egan 5. Coach: Brian Garvey

Best six: 6. Stewart 5, Ron Campbell (both PM), 4. Miranda (SMH), 3. Opasina 2, Ilioski (both PM), 1. Egan (SMH)

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Kalantzis 31st) SYDNEY CROATIA 4 (Jones 45th, Arnold 79th, Rumora 82nd, Slater 83rd) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 8225.

OLYMPIC Meier 9 - Svinos 4 (Spanoudakis 67th), Ratcliffe 6, Dakos 5, Hantzis 4 - Patalis 6, Raskopoulos 4 (Dragicevic 42nd, 5), Phillips 5, Kotamanidis 4 - Kosmina 6, Kalantzis 7. Coach: David Ratcliffe

CROATIA Franken 8 - Jones 7, Vilestra 7, Rozic 8, Savor 7 - Rumora 8, Odzakovic 9, Jennings 8 - Graham 7, Junn 7 (Cinch 54th), Slater 9. Coach: Vedran Rozic

Best six: 6. Odzakovic 5, Slater (both C), 4. Meier (O), 3. Jennings, 2. Rozic, 1. Rumora (all C)



● South Melbourne Hellas midfielder Paul Wade (left) about to break clear of Preston Makedonia striker Steve Smith. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Willie Herd to face St George

From page 1

Sydney Olympic is in disarray. Milan Lukic was sacked after one league game in charge and caretaker player-coach David Ratcliffe is far from happy with the fitness level of the team.

Olympic's clash with Brunswick Juventus promises to be a no-holds barred affair. Peter Lewis, Brian Brown, Scott Patterson and Sean Lane of Juventus and John Kosmina, Ratcliffe, Tony Dakos and Peter Raskopoulos of Olympic don't know how to take a backward step.

John Yzendoorn should be back in the Juve line-up. He was sent off last weekend but missed last night's Beach Fashions Cup match.

Yzendoorn's organisational ability means that Kosmina and fellow striker Chris Kalantzis will find space at a premium and I'm convinced that Juve's shoddy display against Melbourne Croatia last weekend won't be repeated.

Juve coach Len McKendry and unhappy with his side's disposal against Croatia and knowing McKendry he'll have drilled that point home this week as he prepares for the Olympic battle.

Olympic may learn what Marconi discovered the other week — Juventus pressures you better than any side in the league. That could prove to be Olympic's undoing.

Another two first round games in the 1987 Beach Fashions Cup take place next Wednesday, April 15 when Sydney Olympic and St George clash at St George Stadium at 7.30 pm and Sydney Croatia takes on APIA Leichhardt at the Croatian Sports Centre at 7.30 pm.



● Peter Raskopoulos has been a winner with Olympic but this Sunday he'll face the might of Brunswick Juventus in what should be a tough tussle at Olympic Park No. 1.



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1987 West End NSL



● Eddie Thomson — could he be taking over the coaching reins at Marconi with Roberto Vieri becoming the club's new manager?

Thomson to take over from Vieri?

**Marconi 2
St George 0**

At Marconi Stadium
Crowd: 1,707
Referee: Gary Power 9.
Cautions: Green, Slavski (SG); Mason (M).
Scorers: Nasteovski 52nd, Farina 72nd.

The first points of the season were claimed by Marconi last Sunday but few were pleased with the performance of the high-flying Fairfielders.

In fact the two sides battled through an uneven first half with St George a shade the better, more composed and just a bit faster to the ball.

Ken Slavski and Stuart Porter both had shots parried. Bob Catlin saved from Slavski, then came the one from Porter which sailed wide. But that was all Saints could offer. As far as Marconi was concerned its players went two metres forward and three backward.

At half time, Roberto Vieri replaced Attilio Carbone and the result was immediate. He exchanged passes with David Lowe two minutes into the second half but his shot went wide. However, Nasteovski was soon to make amends as Robert Wheatley sent a superb through ball for Nasteovski who ran between two Saints players



Alex Vesic

then struck a great left footer which beat Gibson with ease. Marconi looked lethargic despite its lead and Vieri made yet another change hoping to see his side liven up. Geoff Gunning replaced Stephen Maxwell but very little changed in the pattern of this game.

Then, in the 72nd, David Lowe took on Mike O'Shea and much to my surprise waltzed around O'Shea then raced along the by-line before cutting it back for Frank Farina to hit into an open net.

Eddie Thomson, assistant national coach and the man who was in charge at Sydney City for 10 years, was not at the Sydney Olympic v. Croatia game as most anticipated. He was looking on very cheerfully in the Press room at Marconi!

Rumors are rife that Marconi will make a bid to sign Australia's most successful coach at club level. What will then happen to Vieri? My guess is that he might become the new football manager of Marconi!

**Man of the match:
TOM MCCULLOCH
(Marconi)**

If my guess is right a number of Sydney City players will follow their coach to the new club and Marconi's soccer chairman, Tony Labbozetta, would have made his best purchase yet!

I am only guessing, of course.

As for Frank Arok and his charges, well his team of enthusiastic youngsters fought hard but that was all they could do in the circumstances. If Saints are to do well I suspect that Arok will have to put in some strong bids for some of the Sydney Hakoah men.

He certainly needs to do that. There is no way his current team will survive in the league!

Oscar Crino to face South on Sunday!



Knut Werner

**Heidelberg 3
Foot. JUST 0**

Scorers: Fraser 39th, Sele-midis 74th, Tsolakis 80th.
Venue: Olympic Village.
Attendance: 3000 (estimated)
Cautions: Kanesoulis, Hunter, Karic.

Referee: Arthur Owens 7.
Footscray JUST team manager, Joe Sterpin, predicted before the game that Oscar Crino would be cleared by Tuesday of this week and would be rushed into the squad for this Sunday's match against South Melbourne Hellas.

If that happens there will be a quartet of relieved men in Tom Karic, Eddie Campbell, Tyrone James and Gary Van Egmond.

These four practically carried Footscray for most of the match absorbing pressure galore every time Heidelberg came forward and went through an almost non-existent Footscray midfield.

It was hard to believe this was the same Ernie Tapal that strode around the middle of the park like he owned it last year.

This time he was dispossessed more often than not probably through the inability to get any support from the three partners.

Footscray must really find a ball winner in the middle of the park otherwise its huge investment in Oscar Crino may prove worthless.

The hint from the JUST camp is that the club may end up signing Costa Theodosopoulos once the Green Gully midfielder recovers from an injury which has stopped him training for the past fortnight.

On Sunday Crino sat in the makeshift Press area with the suspended Vido Bozinkovic and captain Zdravko Lujic who pulled out of the game before the kick-off with a tendon injury.

Lujic's absence made the JUST forward line more insipid than could be expected and although JUST saw a lot more of the ball, it never looked as threatening anywhere near the area as Heidelberg did when going forward.

Inspired by a good performance by Claude Lucchesi from the middle of the park, Heidelberg set the crowd buzzing everytime it broke into at-

**Man of the match:
CLAUDE LUCCHESI
(Heidelberg)**

tack and it was only the efforts of Karic, Campbell and to a lesser extent Van Egmond that prevented a really embarrassing scoreline.

The result maintained the unbelievable record that Heidelberg has in encounters with JUST. The hoodoo has lasted over the 10 seasons of National League competition and has been broken with only one victory in the 21 encounters between the pair.

Heidelberg went into the match with a number of positional changes and without NZ international Andy Deeley, who was dropped after missing two training sessions during the week.

Coach John Margaritis switched Peter Tsolakis from midfield to partner Laurie McKinna upfront. Theo Sele-midis was restored to his old midfield spot while the biggest surprise was the switch of John Kanesoulis from midfield to the right back position.

Kanesoulis tackled the new position as if his life depended on it and ended up in referee Owens' book after only three minutes after a bad tackle on Alex Radivojevic, who was hardly sighted after that and was eventually replaced.

On this showing, Kanesoulis deserves further opportunities to prove his worth in the spot. Footscray JUST had the better of exchanges for over 35 minutes but it emphasised the striking weakness when the best efforts on goal came from a 20 metres drive from Karic at the 20 minute mark.

Scott Fraser, making his debut as a defensive midfielder after his rushed \$7000 transfer from Green Gully, changed the course of the game with a goal in the 39th minute.

Radivojevic lost the ball in the middle of the park and Tsolakis was in like a shot to feed Fraser, who let fly from 25 metres with a shot which crept into the top left corner of the net.

Heidelberg had to release Paul Langsbury on a free release to create the vacancy for Fraser but it remains a



● Oscar Crino in action for Australia. Crino could be in Footscray JUST's line-up this weekend.

mystery how the immigration department allowed the Fraser signing, when Langsbury's visa had not yet become the responsibility of another club.

JUST's best scoring chance came nine minutes into the second half when Van Egmond finished a run forward with a good cross into the box and found Warren Spink, but the stand-in striker headed wide from a good position.

In the 62nd minute, Campbell sent over a cross from the left, Latif stepped over the ball allowing Suleiman Curovic to have a shot when left over managed to tip away for a corner.

The goal that put the result beyond doubt came in the 74th minute and ironically enough came from a foul by Karic who got booked for holding back Tsolakis as the tiny forward pulled away from his down the left side near the byline.

Lucchesi swung over the freekick which fell at the far post for Theo Selemidis to bundle it over the line with his thigh.

Heidelberg should have

gone further ahead when the linesman's flag stayed down even though both Tsolakis and McKinna were clearly offside as Ketsakidis pumped a long clearance forward.

Tsolakis advanced toward goal but his final shot over the bar in the 79th minute.

A minute later, Tsolakis broke through again, this time from a legitimate position and with the linesman correctly keeping the flag down, the striker ran onto Lucchesi's through pass, taunted Nikitovic into committing himself then slid the ball past him into the back of the net for the third goal.

Despite the emphatic scoreline, Margaritis refused to get carried away by the result.

"The result will instill confidence in the side and will maintain the keenness that exists among the boys," Margaritis said.

"But the time I would like to judge our potential is when we take on teams that play the British style of soccer. "There aren't too many teams which will allow you to play the way JUST does."

A foul-a-minute flop!



Craig MacKenzie

**M.Croatia 2
B.Juventus 0**

Scorers: Cullen own goal 4th, Wallace 68th.
Venue: Olympic Park.
Crowd: about 2,500.
Cautions: Campbell, McIntosh (MC); Peter Lewis, Durakovic, Zvendorn (BJ).
Sent off: Zvendorn (BJ) 90th.
Referee: Jim Rossis 5.

Robert DiPierdomenico and David Rhys-Jones would have been in their element in this match.

No way would these Aussie Rules stars have looked out of place among the elbowing, tripping, body-checking, shirt-pulling, ankle-tapping, booting spectacle that bored fans stupid throughout an unusually glorious Melbourne afternoon.

Referee Jim Rossis flashed the yellow card at four players in an effort to stop this foul-a-minute flop from deteriorating further but that didn't work. In the end Rossis sent off Juventus sweeper John Zvendorn for dissent after the South Australian ref gave a goal-kick to Croatia that should have been a corner to Juventus.

**Man of the match:
ROBBIE DUNN
(M.Croatia)**

cause was lost. Nevertheless, he should have kept his mouth shut, even though he was right.

Rossis first booked Zvendorn who persisted and earned a red card.

But what a bloody disgrace this was as a spectacle.

An own goal after a Josip Biskic cut-back from a tight angle gave Croatia the lead and Ian Wallace pounced on a mix-up between two Juventus defenders in the 68th minute, rounded Pat Marrama and cheekily tapped the ball into goal to make it 2-0.

Andrew Zinni and Sean Lane were completely shut out by the Croatia defence with Robbie Dunn giving Zinni a bath and Ian Wallace rarely letting lane out of his sights.

That's just about all the row.

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• Preston Makedonia, 2-1 conqueror of South Melbourne Hellas last Sunday, back row: George Jolevski, Zoran Tasevski, Steve Jackson, Phil Traianedes, Billy Piculovski, Steve Gojevic, Zoran Ilioski, Steve Smith. Front row: Mike McLennan, Veice Kondinskie, Con Opasinas, John Stewart, Ron Campbell. Pictures: LES SHORROCK.

Tasevski hits Hellas hard



• Preston Makedonia midfielder Steve Gojevic.

Makedonia 2 SM Hellas 1

At Connor Reserve, Crowd: 3000
Referee: D Campbell B.
Cautions: Tasevski, Piculovski, Billy Murray.

The scenario suggested that Preston Makedonia, without strong-man Ian Dobson who was suspended, would have difficulty in containing a spirited South Melbourne Hellas that had so convincingly thrashed George Cross the week before.

How different it all turned out?

Preston coach Billy Murray brought in Bill Piculovski to play in Dobson's place, made Steve Jackson the spare man at the back and relief on Con Opasinas to cover Charlie Egan, a job he did brilliantly.

The game was only a minute old when Makedonia's new "hard man", Zoran Tasevski, collided head-on with Egan. Both lay motionless on the ground, but eventually Egan carried on wearing a lump on his forehead as a souvenir, whilst Tasevski went off to be stitched-up.

Preston played without him for 15 minutes and around me, Preston supporters, who by now are becoming fatalistic about their team, muttered pessimistically.

It was all South. Its midfield



Les Shorrock

seemed to be running riot, but gradually it dawned on the locals that South wasn't getting anywhere, despite its territorial domination.

Then Tasevski came on to collide with a few more white-shirted players, and gradually the pendulum swung Preston's way.

But there seemed no danger when, in the 39th minute, John Stewart slung over a cross to the far post where Stuart Stevenson, back defending against the wind was happy to beat Steve Smith to the ball and head behind for a corner.

Peter Laurens jumped and caught Zoran Ilioski's corner-kick, but appeared to fumble on the way down and in the ensuing goalmouth melee, it was Steve Smith who got the vital touch.

Pandemonium. Makedonia's in front. Jubilation! "Good on yer, Billy," shouted the fans, who 10 minutes before wanted Murray's head on a platter.

The goal seemed to sun South, but worse was to follow. Six minutes into the second half, with the South defenders

Man of the match:
JOHN STEWART
(Makedonia)

square across the park, Steve Smith and Ron Campbell played a neat interchange that resulted in Campbell sending Ilioski away in acres of space behind the South defence.

He had time to pick his spot, but even then hit the ball straight at Laurens, only to see the ball go through the 'keeper's legs.

More pandemonium... double jubilation!... the Preston fans can hardly believe it. Neither can Bill Murray. By now he's so worked up that he starts to harangue referee Don Campbell about a free-kick decision for a second time and for his temerity is dismissed from the bench.

It was getting too much for Brian Garvey too, as he watched his midfield fiddle its way to ruin, and off came Danny Craine to be replaced by Ken Murphy, happily now fit again.

South started to create more chances, but Preston rearguard looked wobbly, and when Charlie Egan latched on to a half chance just outside the box and volleyed it past Phil Traianedes, via a defender, it looked as though a Lazarus job was on the way.

That was in the 70th minute, and South piled on the pressure until Egan should have grabbed the equalizer when he cut through, only to shoot wide from point-blank range.

Man of the match:
NEV FLOUNDERS
(Ad. Juventus)

game into a physical confrontation.

Even though APIA pressed, Juventus looked likely scorers on the counter-attack and it was nearly 3-0 in the 68th minute when Sergio Melia made a clever break for Paul Wilde whose shot was deflected for a corner by goalkeeper Tony Pezzano.

Rale Rasie's momentary halftime aberration of replacing a midfielder with a full-back, when down two goals at home, was corrected in the 71st minute when the unfortunate youngster was in turn replaced by Gary Ward — an attacker.

The sheer force of APIA's four forwards soon paid dividends. In the 76th minute a neat interchange between Alex Bundalo and Peter Tredinnick ended with Burim Zajmi shooting under keeper Willie McNally.

McNally then experienced

some dramatic moments as APIA combarded his goal. He copped a few solid bumps but his concentration remained intact and a point blank save from Rod Brown was proof of his class.

However APIA's relentless pressure showed no signs of fading and three minutes from time Rod Brown bagged the equaliser. He took a short pass from Hilton Phillips to drive the ball into the far corner past McNally's outstretched hands.

The APIA fans' jubilation at snatching one point was akin to a victory celebration. Juventus showed how technically and tactically superior it was and the home side needed all the guts, perseverance and character it could muster to save the day. This time it worked.

Juventus technically superior

APIA 2 Ad. Juventus 2
Score: Vidmar 2nd, Villani 15th (Ad. Juventus), Zajmi 76th, R. Brown 87th (Ad. Juventus).

Venue: Lambert Park. Crowd: 2155. Cautions: M. Brown, Tredinnick, Brady (Ad. Juventus), Wilde, Vidmar (Ad. Juventus).

There was an air of expectancy as the fans slowly streamed into the compact and beautifully manicured Lambert Park for APIA's first home game of the season.

A new direction for the club, many notable signings and a resounding win the previous week set the stage for an exciting game against a talented adversary.

The pre-match entertainment was the usual unexciting fare although the appearance of a glossy club magazine 'Intermezzo' kept the crowd amused by helping them identify all the members of the committee and then guess who the players from both sides were.

On Saturday, a promotion in the busy nearby Leichhardt Market Town shopping centre was organised to promote the club and its home games. The first team squad was on hand to give away some passes, T-shirts and balls.

On Sunday the players continued their benevolent mood and gave Juventus two simple goals in the first 15 minutes.

A corner in the second minute by Adrian Santrac found Aurelio Vidmar unmarked and the nippy striker scooped the ball in through a crowd of stranded defenders. Five minutes later Vidmar had the ball in the net again but was ruled off-side.

After 15 minutes Vidmar provided the quarter, but



Mike Mikolajczyk

Ad. Juventus was now in total control and APIA was in total disarray. Rale Rasie's men had nothing to show for their coach's hurried note-taking exercise in Adelaide the previous week.

They fielded four positional changes and played without a recognised playmaker; whereas Juventus, sharper and more composed, built moves neatly from the back, played wide on the flanks and generally made APIA chase the ball for 45 minutes.

After that not even the widest optimist would have given the Leichhardt lads a chance; but then how quickly fortunes can change.

A change in tactics was desperately needed — APIA retook the field far more committed and turned the

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Peter Scott

Syd. Olympic 1 Syd. Croatia 4

Score: Kalantzis 31st (Syd. Olympic), Arnold 79th, Rumora 82nd, Slater 83rd (Syd. Croatia).

Venue: St George Stadium. Crowd: 8225. Cautions: Dakos, Raskopoulos (Syd. Croatia). Referee: Jim Reeves B.

Five dramatic minutes in the final quarter of an hour saw Croatia come out the winner in a spectacular game of football.

It was during that period that Olympic paid the penalty for what its acting coach, David Ratcliffe, claims were the mistakes of his just dismissed predecessor, Milan Lukic.

"When other teams were conditioning their players, last December, we were doing shooting practice in Centennial Park," said Ratcliffe.

"We're a month behind others and it will take more than just one training session to catch up."

"The squad also lacks depth and we need to sign up two or three good players."

These are likely to include a mixture of new and old faces, the first of them South American midfielder magician Vincente Estavillo.

President Tom Doumanis indicated that Olympic also has its eyes firmly on the Hakoah "fire sale" now under way.

Oh, but those final few minutes!

Croatia literally ripped apart a badly tiring Olympic defence, with Slater and Ozakov — the undoubted stars of the day — taking the honours.

Slater left the Olympic defence in tangles with a weaving run six minutes from the final whistle, finally slipping the ball to an unmarked Arnold.

The big star coolly rounded the desperately advancing Gary Meier and put it away into an empty net.

Just three minutes later Zarko Odzakovic, in absolutely devastating form from go to whoa, floated an impeccably accurate ball into the penalty area, with Ante Rumora connecting on cue with a perfect header.

Almost immediately after the restart Robbie Slater, streaking around all afternoon in top gear, cut through a de-

Man of the match:
ZARKO ODZAKOV
(Syd. Croatia)

fence by now in tatters — like a hot knife through butter — to make the score 4-1.

It is fair to say, though, that before the final rout Olympic showed more spirit than before its coaching change.

For sustained periods the team even played well, often matching its highly skilled opponents.

After a tentative start Croatia did gradually assert its superiority, putting together a succession of delightful and eye-catching attacking moves.

Odzakov ruled supreme in midfield, exhibiting wizardry rarely observed in Australian soccer, while Slater constantly showed a clean set of heels to desperate defenders.

In spite of this Olympic struck the first blow, when an effervescent Kalantzis chested — or if you listen to Croatia, handed — the ball 10 metres out and seized his scoring chance without error.

It took until the final minute of the first half for a Jones header to even accounts, although this was also disputed — on this occasion off-side was the allegation.

Winning coach Rozic was pleased with a spectacular win, but did admit to moments of anxiety as veteran goalie Gary Meier pulled off a succession of absolutely stunning saves between the Olympic posts.

All-in-all, it was an afternoon of thrilling, spectacular, pulsating soccer of the type we need to bring the crowds out in their thousands week after week.

Croatia already looks capable of challenging strongly for the NSL title, while Olympic looks promising in its attempt to overcome the internal drama and stagnation of the past few weeks.

What the Greek club now needs is a measure of internal peace and quiet, coupled with hard, hard work.

What it also needs is to give Peter Raskopoulos a few weeks on the sidelines to recover from a back injury from which he hasn't had a chance to shake off.

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Dick and Tuck hit hat-tricks

Caulfield 1 Croydon 0

At Princes Park on Saturday

Score: Griffin 52nd (Caul). This was Caulfield's fourth win on the trot (and thoroughly deserved too) and it spelt out the message loud and clear that Caulfield is a definite threat to any title aspirant.

Another message that also came over on Saturday was that this is not going to be Croydon's year.

Dad's Army, alas, has had its day, but now it's due to demob. Hand in the pikes and halberds, lads, and get round to the quartermaster's store for your civvy suits. Croydon's had a great couple of years, but even Liverpool has to rebuild from time to time, and shrewd Jimmy Tansey must know it better than most.

Caulfield was far too nippy for Croydon on the day, and the addition of Lou Theodosopoulos and Phil Griffin since I saw them last has added an extra dimension to its game.

One aspect of Caulfield's games never changes, though. Why do visiting teams persist in belting long, high balls down the middle when they are facing a pair of centre-backs as dominant in the air as Angie Koutos and Paul Harris? It's meat and drink to these two big lads, and it was the same story on Saturday.

This time it was Jimmy Nelson playing the Lone Ranger up front, with no Tonto anywhere in sight. Poor Jimmy laboured away all day, but on the few occasions he got a ball at ground level he kept running into this blue-shirted brick wall with the result that I don't recall Robert Madjer in the Caulfield end ever having a shot to save.

But whilst Croydon didn't get a shot on goal, Caulfield had plenty, but sprayed them all round postal district 3162.

The most significant statistic of the game is that the only goal came from a free-kick, rolled to Phil Griffin who hit it superbly into the top corner of the net, with all the aplomb of Hoddle at his best.

But that was all, and that greatly improved keeper Keith Waterman was hardly more extended than Madjer. Does Takis Svingos ever give his players supporting practice, I wonder? Six goals from five games is hardly awe-inspiring, is it.

Talking of reinforcements for Croydon, one forlorn spectator at this game was Andy Humble. Humble is in a twilight zone at present. He went from Croydon to Melbourne Croatia, together with Jim McLean, but now Croatia says he isn't ready for the NSL yet and is quite willing to let him go back to Croydon.

But no, says the VSF, the rule that enabled Chris Middlemist to go back to Nunawading City after a couple of weeks at South Melbourne last year has been changed and Humble will have to stay where he is until December!

Fancy, and I thought that the VSF was in the business of assisting players to play, not stopping them. Croatia President Jack Skoblar says he is going to appeal for Humble to be treated as a special case. Maybe he should approach Jack Reilly,



Victorian State League
with JOHN MANGAN

who promised when he was elected that he would right a lot of anomalies. At the moment it appears that Humble is being denied natural justice.

WV Suburbs 5 Northcote 1

At Ralph Street Reserve on Sunday

Score: Tuck 26th, 42nd, 73rd, Smallman 44th, 61st pen. (WS); Patinolis 16th (Nc).

Northcote after a promising early spell capitulated at the hands of a Western Suburbs team whose confidence is increasing.

The game was full of good signs for Suburbs, from the goal-scoring feats of Darren Tuck to the fitness of David Smallman who sprinted half the length of the field to score Suburbs' third and his first goal of the day.

Northcote's major problems were not in defence but in midfield and attack where the bigger, stronger Suburbs players dominated.

While Juan Toro's team saw much of the ball it just couldn't make its attacks count. The Northcote attack of Chris Bekiaris, Victor Espanon and Peter Constantinou was never short of skill but lacked the strength in the air to consistently threaten the Suburbs' goal.

The substitution of big Tom Patsakos at half-time for Espanon gave Toro's attack more height but his presence was not enough to bring Northcote back into the game.

It was nevertheless Northcote which drew first blood when the untiring Arthur Patinolis jumped high in the 16th minute to head his team into the lead.

Ten minutes later though Tuck met a through-ball from the middle and took it into the penalty-area coolly slotting it past the advancing Gianis Poulos.

Tuck was on hand again three minutes before half-time when Billy Hamill powered his way through the middle and pushed the ball forward into the gap for Tuck to run onto and shoot into the back of the net.

Then with only one minute to half-time Suburbs scored the goal which perhaps sealed Northcote's fate when Tuck took the ball wide on the right and put in a delicate chip to Smallman who was racing in like a stream-train and who made no mistake with his header.

And it was that man Tuck again who was impeded in the penalty-area when going for a header that earned Suburbs a penalty kick. Smallman had no trouble putting away.

Then with 17 minutes remaining substitute Minh Tri Vo sent one of his inch-perfect passes curling into Tuck's path. Tuck took it right into the box and confidently played it wide of the keeper slotting it in from a narrow angle to secure his hat-trick.

Polonia 3 Thomastown 1

At Raleigh Reserve on Sunday

Score: Kotzamichalis 32nd, Czapnik 58th, 60th (Pol); Arcoraci 82nd (Th).

An undermanned Thomastown was beaten by a Polonia team which reasserted its claim to the State League title going top of the table after its 3-1 win.

Miron Bleiberg's team dominated the game but Thomastown gave little away in defence despite the absence of some of the team's key players notably Nino DiMartino, Russell Athersych and Robert Pinalto. Mike Lynn's team's injury problems were further aggravated with the taking off of Kevin Carfora late in the game.

Lynn was bitterly disappointed with the refereeing and attributed Polonia's first two goals to errors by ref Sam Zoumas.

"We didn't give anything away at the back but the rules were not being applied as I learnt them and Polonia was given two gift goals. Polonia was stronger on the day but the 3-1 score was not an accurate reflection of the game," he said.

Polonia's first goal came from a Peter Czapnik corner. Czapnik, who was in fine form, had his corner cleared but as the Thomastown defence moved out the ball was played back into the box to big Aki Kotzamichalis who slotted home his first goal for the season amid protests from Thomastown that he had been clearly offside.

Bleiberg's team went further ahead when Rab Nelson put a long ball through to Czapnik. With Alex Marshall and Jan Wycisk in support Czapnik nonchalantly knocked the ball past keeper Mauro Raponi. Lynn said after the game that Marshall and Wycisk were "miles offside".

With time running out for Thomastown, McMillan was pushed into attack. A Brian Coyle corner eight minutes from time was met by a thumping Frank Arcoraci header to put his team back in the hunt.

Pushing for a last minute equalizer though left Thomastown exposed at the back and Czapnik capitalised on this getting into the end of a lovely ball from Alex Marshall and slamming it into the roof of the net.

After the game Bleiberg was satisfied with his team's performance.

"We were the better team on the day and I was quite happy with the result."

AIS 3 Oakleigh 1

At Bruce Stadium on Saturday

Score: Polak 22nd, Welch 25th, Gibson 82nd (AIS); Paparas 7th (Oak).

Only seven minutes into the game the visiting Oak-



Jimmy Nelson looks on as his Croydon team-mate Graham French battles with Caulfield's Paul Harris and Angie Koutos. Pictures: LES SHORROCK.

leigh side gave the Institute a warning that it had a game on its hands by taking the lead from a Jim Paparas goal.

In spite of the unusually long trip Kris Kalifatis's team took the initiative and ran the ball at the Institute's players. This reaped its reward when Steve Gusic took the ball down the left and centred it. The Institute defence was unable to clear the ball from the goalmouth scramble Paparas bundled it over the line.

Ron Smith's team got back into the game 15 minutes later when Jason Polak ran onto a ball from Alex Cummings and blasted a shot from 25 metres to score the goal of the game.

Only three minutes later the Institute took the lead when Alistair Edwards intercepted a throw-in deep in the Oakleigh half. He knocked the ball which was bouncing forward and then kicked it back over his head into the six-yard box where Paul Welch was on hand to head in the opportunist goal.

Though the rest of the first-half was all Institute, Kalifatis's team came back in the second term and it was end-to-end stuff.

Ten minutes from time however Smith played his masterstroke bringing on John Gibson. Gibson went on as the Institute was awarded a corner and from his position at the far post he scored with his first touch of the game. Edwards flicked the ball on from the near post to the substitute who shot it home.

Paul Foster could have added to his goal-tally when he beat the Oakleigh defence but with only the keeper to beat he misused his shot.

John Koch was desperately unlucky not to score at least once when both a left foot and a right foot shot of his hit the woodwork.

Fawkner 1 Dinamo 2

At Smith Reserve on Sunday

Score: Stenson 40th (F); Morovic 11th, 22nd (SDA).

There was a great deal at stake in the top-of-the-table clash between Fawkner and St Albans Dinamo and it was reflected in the hard but unattractive struggle the match became.

It was not a quality game but both teams showed that they deserve their high places on the table.

With Fawkner playing only three men across the back Dinamo coach Tony Vrzina pushed Ivan Duzel into the forward line past to Dinamo's

11th minute when Branko Culina found Morovic in space and he slammed the ball home to give Dinamo an early lead.

Only 11 minutes later Dinamo won a free-kick on the right when Svoeto Rastocic was fouled. Duzel took the kick which went the 40 yards to the far post where it was met by Morovic in the air who headed it past former Kiwi international Richard Wilson.

Fawkner wasn't going to give up this game without a fight though and hit back five minutes before half-time when it was awarded a free-kick on the edge of the Dinamo area. Dinamo keeper Mato Grgic lined up his defensive wall but was out of position himself when the free-kick was taken and Ged Stenson took full advantage aiming his shot at the far post.

Frank McAleer's team pressed in the second-half for the equaliser but it was not forthcoming and in the final minutes of the game Dinamo could have gone further ahead when Runje chased a high ball going towards the Fawkner goal.

With Wilson coming out to meet the ball, it bounced perfectly for Runje who headed it over the keeper only to see it hit the crossbar.

Morwell 1 Green Gully 1

At North Crinigan Reserve on Saturday

Score: A. Cassar 80th (MF); Bruns o.g. 35th (GG).

Morwell Falcons played some brilliant football in the first half of its clash with former league-toppers Green Gully on Saturday but could not get the ball in the back of the net.

Instead it was Gully which got the goal that put it ahead for most of the match.

Gully's goal came after a free-kick taken on the edge of the penalty-area was tipped over the bar by Romero Prezioso. The referee directed that the kick be retaken as it had not blown his whistle before it.

The retaken kick by Les Carter had plenty of power but would have gone wide had not Falcons' sweeper Emil Bruns instinctively moved to head the ball only to deflect it past his own keeper.

In the second-half Gus Macleod's visiting Gully team came back into the game creating a few chances but Falcons reasserted their authority as the term progressed culminating in their equalizing goal in the 80th minute when Effie Cassar took the ball from his own half

thony to run onto and shoot home.

Falcons could have been awarded a penalty when Stuart Cannell appeared to handle a ball from a Stan Webster flick to Graham Tullis.

Gully's star was Carter who was tireless in midfield while Falcons must look at their lack of finishing power if they are to get victories from some of the games they are presently only drawing.

F'ston Pines 4 Broadmeadows 3

At Monterey Park on Sunday

Score: Miller 15th, Dick 56th, 58th, 93rd (FP); Vizzini 10th, P Kadlecik 46th, 77th (BM).

Ally Dick marked his return to the Buffalo State League this year with an emphatic hat-trick which won the game for Frankston Pines in a ding-dong battle with Broadmeadows.

The extroverted Scot played his first full game for Pines this season after a transfer to Preston Makedonia fell through and as well as being man of the match, scored the winning goal in extra-time.

However, it was Kaz Kulak's Broadmeadows that made the initial running when in the 10th minute Tony Clantar overlapped on the left taking the ball to the touch-line where he was brought down. The resulting free-kick went deep to Vizzini at the far post who headed Broadly into the lead.

Another free-kick only five minutes later at the other end of the pitch put Pines back on level terms. The kick was tapped on to Craig Miller who blasted it through the disintegrating Broadmeadows wall giving goalkeeper Dennis Pace no chance.

Broadmeadows hit back from the kick-off of the second-half when Grant Smart hit a long ball to Stewart Blair on the right who centred it to Peter Kadlecik. Pines' keeper Branko Radov was caught in no-mans-land and Kadlecik knocked it past him.

Ten minutes later Dick equalised and then put Pines in the lead for the first time in the game.

Dick won the ball 30 metres from goal, beat two defenders and then blasted a shot from 15 metres out past the advancing Pace.

Two minutes later Dick was set free on the right and looked like he wanted to centre the ball. His kick surprised everyone — especially Pace — when it swung goalwards and hit the far post rebounding into

minutes of normal time remaining Kadlecik and Graham Watson challenged for the ball. Kadlecik got half a shot which went under Radov's body to level the score at 3-3.

Three minutes into injury-time though Dick sealed the game for Danny McMinimee's team by curling a 25 metre free-kick over the Broadmeadows wall into the top right hand corner of the net to give Pines a memorable victory.

Box Hill 2 Springvale 3

At Wembley Park on Sunday

Score: Burton 35th, D. Hennessey 74th (BH); Vasic 19th, 59th, Loughnane 81st (Sv).

Spectators at Wembley Park on Sunday were treated to a game which had everything.

The first 25 minutes were all Springvale as Bobby McLachlan's team pushed for an opening goal that would set it right for its first win of the season.

With the Box Hill defence in disarray it was only a combination of brave goalkeeping by John McKinlay and inaccurate shooting by the Vale's attack that kept the score-sheet blank.

In the 19th minute Springvale broke through with a series of six consecutive passes which ended with Eddie Bell firing over a cross which Dragan Vasic scored to head him perfectly placing the ball past a helpless McKinlay.

Springvale pushed forward for a second goal but Box Hill bounced back.

Box Hill throw by Harry Hird evaded a group of players at the near post and fell to Barry Burton who found a gap and wedged the ball between keeper Dennis Boland and the post to level the scores.

George Murray's men took the initiative and for the rest of the first half Burton, Hird and Dean Hennessey ran the show.

The second-half saw Springvale attack but once again it could not find a way past McKinlay until a shot parried by the keeper fell to Vasic who hammered the ball into the net.

With Springvale keen to increase its lead the Hillmen counter-attacked and Boland came out to meet the ball and collided with the on-rushing Box Hill forward.

Referee Dave Sorenson controversially awarded a penalty and Hennessey fired the spot-kick to Boland's right-hand side to once again level the score.

However, Vasic was not content with a draw for his team and in a run he lured McKinlay out of position, then cut the ball



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GAME DETAILS

Buffalo State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
POLONIA	3	2	0	11	5	8
CAULFIELD	4	0	1	6	2	8
GREEN GULLY	3	2	0	9	6	8
ST DINAMO	3	1	1	10	5	7
Fawkner	2	2	1	6	4	6
Western Sub	2	1	2	8	6	5
Thomastown	2	1	1	3	3	5
Frank Pines	2	1	1	8	9	5
Springvale	1	2	1	5	4	4
Croydon	1	2	3	4	4	4
Morwell	0	3	1	3	5	3
Oakleigh	1	1	2	6	9	3
Box Hill	0	2	3	4	7	2
Broadmeadows	1	0	4	6	10	2
Northcote	0	0	4	2	10	0

* The AIS is not included in the tables as no points are awarded for the games it plays.

BOX HILL 2 (Burton 35th, D. Hennessey 74th) SPRINGVALE CITY 3 (Vasic 19th, 59th, Loughnane 81st) at Wembley Park on Sunday.
BOX HILL McKinnley 3 — Davidson 6, McMillan 6, Row 70th, Hird 7, Roodhouse 7 — Brimmer 6, Burton 7, D Hennessey 7 — Azzopardi 5 (Mori 70th), Mozzina 5, G Campbell 6. Coach: George Murray.

SPRINGVALE Boland 6 — Bannan 7, Adams 7, Bissinger 7, Hobson 7 — Stewart 6, Ball 7, Williams 7, House 7 — Loughnane 7, Vasic 8. Coach: Bobby McLachlan.
Best three: 3 Vasic (SV), 2 McKinnley (BH), 1 House (SV).

CAULFIELD CITY 1 (Griffin 52nd) CROYDON CITY 0 at Princes Park on Saturday.
CAULFIELD Madjer 5 — Filipou 6, Harris 6, Koutos 7 — Michell 5 (Abraham H T 4) — Sahinidis 5 (Tsitiridis 77th), Theodorou 7, Bitsonis 5, Hamakiotis 6 — Griffin 5, Theodosopoulos 5. Coach: Takis Svingos.

CROYDON Waterman 6 — Brown 5, O'Reilly 4 (Brack 59th), Marshall 4, Tansey 5 (O'Shea 78th) — McDonald 4, Beech 4, Brogan 4, Livingstone 4 — French 2, Nelson 6. Coach: Jim Tansey.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT 3 (Polak 22nd, Welch 25th, Gibson 82nd) OAKLEIGH 1 (Paparas 7th) at Bruce Stadium on Saturday.
INSTITUTE Gunning 7 — Healy 8, Cummings 9, Mills 8, Koch 9 — P. Foster 7, Polak 9, Clarkson 8, Marcina 7 (Gibson 80th) — Welch 7, Edwards 8. Coach: Ron Smith.

OAKLEIGH Iokamidis 7 — Laleas 5, Grumacher 5, Pahlina 6, Cumming 6 — Kakantonis 4, Ross 5, Gasic 4 — Polits 5, Irvine 6, Paparas 4. Coach: Kris Kalitaditis.

Best three: 3 Polak (AIS), 2 Koch (AIS), 1 Healy (AIS).

WESTERN SUBURBS 5 (Tuck 26th, 42nd, 73rd, Smallman 44th, 61st pen.) NORTHCOLE 1 (Patinotis 16th) at Ralph Street Reserve on Sunday.

WESTERN SUBURBS Kardamitsis 7 — McLeod 7, Dimovski 6, Kyriazis 7, Stefanidis 7 — Palmericciotti 6 (Mih 60th), Cullen 6, Hamill 7, Kountouris 5 — Tuck 9, Smallman 8 (Farmer 74th). Coach: Jim Condilis.

NORTHCOLE Giannopoulos 7 — Leonardos 7, Bozakis 7, Kouroumou 7, J. Constantinou 7 — Ramos 7, Small 8, Patinotis 8 — Bekiaris 5, Espanon 6 (Patsakos H T 6), P. Constantinou 6 (Giannopoulos 80th). Coach: Juan Toro.

Best three: 3 Tuck (WS), 2 Smallman (WS), 1 Patinotis (NC).

MORWELL FALCONS 1 (A. Cassar 80th) GREEN GULLY 1 (Bruno o.g. 35th) at North Crinigen Reserve on Saturday.

MORWELL FALCONS Prezioso 7 — Bingham 8, Bruns 7, Clark 7, Kotis 7 — E. Cassar 9, O'Callaghan 9, Tutill 8 (Inj. A. van Baa 78th) — Webster 7, Stirtion 7, A. Cassar 9. Coach: Dave O'Connor.

GREEN GULLY Derys 8 — Hogben 6, Cannell 7, McLelland 7, Douglas 6 — Cumming 6, Gungley 5, Carter 8, Ward 6 — Zemunik 6, Sweeney 6. Coach: Gus McLeod.

Best three: 3 E. Cassar (MF), 2 A. Cassar (MF), 1 O'Callaghan (MF).

POLONIA 3 (Kotzamalichis 32nd, Czapnik 58th, 85th) THOMASTOWN 1 (Arcoraci 82nd) at Raleigh Reserve on Sunday.

POLONIA Kiss 6 — Liplarski (Inj. Lake 30th 7), Kotzamalichis 7, Bennett 7, Smolarek 6 — Czapnik 8, Flavel 6, R. Nelson 7 — Wyciskil 7, Storm 7, Baran 7 (Marshall 75th). Coach: Miron Bleiberg.

THOMASTOWN Raponi 6 — Cosentino 7, McMillan 6, Higgins 6, Arcoraci 7 — Carfara 5 (Inj. De Propertis 80th), Kerr 5, Constantinou 5 (Jankulovski 50th), Coyle 5 — McGuinness 6, Temos 5. Coach: Mike Lynn.

Best three: 3 Czapnik (Pol), 2 Wyciskil (Pol), 1 Arcoraci (TH).

FRANKSTON PINE 4 (Miller 15th, Dick 56th, 58th, 93rd) BROADMEADOWS 3 (Vizzini 10th, P. Kaldecik 46th, 47th) at Monterey Park on Sunday.

FRANKSTON PINES Radov 4 — Thurlow 6, Watson 6, Bozic 6, Ferris 5 — Smith 5 (Hennessey H T 6), Dick 9, Buchanan 6, Rust 5 — Armstrong 7, Miller 8. Coach: Danny McMiner.

BROADMEADOWS Pace 5 (Tamasan 59th) — Smart 7, Donaldson 6, Higham 5, Ciantar 5 — Kostas 8, S. Blair 7, Vizzini 6, D. Blair 5 (Liberto 62nd) — P. Kaldecik 8, Nolan 5. Coach: Kaz Kulak.

Best three: 3 Dick (FP), 2 P. Kaldecik (BM), 1 Miller (FP).

FAWKNER 1 (Stenson 40th) ST ALBANS DINAMO 2 (Morovic 11th, 22nd) at Smith Reserve on Sunday.

FAWKNER Wilson 5 — Fella 6, Fattore 7, Schipano 7 — Walsh 8, Chavelli 5 (Cozzella 75th), Stenson 7, DiCecco 6, Palinkas 5 — Tuffield 6, Verechia 5 (Mancinella 80th). Coach: Frank McAleer.

ST ALBANS DINAMO Grigic 7 — Colina 7, Ramjak 7, Krajacic 8, Kuzman 8 — Rastocic 5 (M. Wilson), Bativovic 6, Culina 7, Duzel 7 — Morovic 8, Runje 6. Coach: Tony Vrzina.

Best three: 3 Morovic (STAD), 2 Walsh (Fa), 1 Krajacic (STAD).

The leading votegetters are:

- 12 — Harris (Ca)
- 9 — Polak (AIS)
- 8 — Edwards (AIS)
- 7 — Fella (Fa)
- 6 — J. Nelson (Cr), T. Cumming (GG)
- 5 — Burton (BH), A. Cassar (MF), Czapnik (Pol), Kotzamalichis (Pol), Koutos (Ca), Tuck (WS)
- 4 — S. Blair (BM), Duzel (STAD), House (SV), Kardamitsis (WS), Koch (AIS), Morovic (STAD), Palinkas (Fa), Theodorou (Ca).

Trouble at Northcote!

Northcote's fifth loss in a row has spurred the club into taking action to prevent repeats of last weekend's humiliating 5-1 defeat at Western Suburbs.

While rumors abound that coach Juan Toro's job is on the line, at the time we went to press he was still holding the job.

What is definite though is that the committee intends to settle its differences with a number of players on its books, namely Kenny Drakeford, Bobby Toal and Gary Cutler.

Toal has trained with a number of other clubs this season including Sunbury but played for the Northcote reserves last weekend scoring two goals and setting up another in the teams 4-4 draw with Suburbs.

Englishman Cutler had a falling out with the club last season and has not appeared at training yet this year while fellow countryman Drakeford argued with Argentine coach Toro at training last week and was dropped from the team for his troubles.

While the club plans to bring these men back into the fold it is also steaming ahead with its plans to bring out Uruguayan Jorge Vega who will be arriving from South America in the next few days. The 21-year-old solidly-built striker has to travel from Uruguay to Argentina where he meets his flight to Melbourne.

The club hopes that the rapid return of key players and the arrival of its second South American import can boost the fortunes of the team which has yet to win or even draw a game this season.

Northcote is currently an-

By JOHN MANGAN

chored to the bottom of the State League table and has yet to play the stronger teams in the league like Green Gully, Polonia and Dinamo.

This Saturday though Northcote meets Box Hill at the John Cain Reserve. While the team has been shaken up by the winds of change blowing through the club in the last few days it should be able to share the points with the young Box Hill team.

Box Hill coach George Murray will be keen to make the most of Northcote's troubles but his front-runners will find it hard going if the Northcote team can learn from last weekend's errors.

Murray's squad has been strengthened by the addition of former Green Gully, Preston Makedonia, South Melbourne Hellas and Aberdeen player George Campbell.

Saturday's other game brings together Oakleigh and Northcote's conqueror of last weekend — Western Suburbs, at Caloola Reserve.

Jim Condilis's dangerous last weekend was backtick hero Darren Tuck, and his combination with David Smallman will prove enough to win this game for the Suburbs team.

The team is still under-manned though and Condilis plans to sign a new player in the near future.

The match of the day on Sunday will be at Green Gully Reserve where Gully meet fellow title-chasers Fawkner. The loss of Scott Fraser to Heidelberg has not made Gus Macleod's team any less fearsome to its opponents. Gully should just be too strong for Fawkner when it hits its stride.



● Croydon, which meets the AIS outfit at Town Park on Sunday, back row: Jim Tansey (coach), Jim O'Reilly, Greg Brack, Keith Waterman, Ian Marshall, Graham French, Steve Lufford, Corrado Noble. Front row: Roy O'Shea, Jim Nelson, Mark Brown, Steve Beech, Matt McDonald, Alex Livingstone, Dave Brogan. Picture: LES SHORROCK

The danger for the Gully-men is that Fawkner may be able to close down on them as the Falcons did in Morwell last weekend, but more familiar surroundings should see them settle down quickly and win this vital clash.

Meanwhile Brisbane Lions were reportedly interested in Gully striker Danny Ward who had been spending time on the bench but was in the starting line-up on the weekend.

Luckless Broadmeadows play host to second-placed Caulfield on Sunday at Laura Douglas Reserve.

Broadmeadows lost to Green Gully by the odd goal out of five a few weeks ago and were struck an even crueler blow last weekend when Alty Dick bundled a hat-trick past them to set up his team Pines for a 4-3 win.

While the game was a thriller Kaz Kulak's team was bitterly disappointed with the result which leaves it in second bottom position on the table. Caulfield though has been getting some very convincing results lately and while Broadmeadows is a better side than its record suggests, Takis Svingos's team should come out of this game with both points.

Last weekend Kulak played two players who have yet to reach peak form — Terry Nolan who is still a week or two from full fitness, and Dougie Blair who is still settling into his new team.

The unbeaten Institute of Sport team travels to Melbourne this weekend to do battle with Croydon — recently dubbed the Dads' Army of the State League.

The clash on Sunday at Town Park between youth and experience should provide

side which has struggled so far this year.

The Institute will be lining up without Craig Foster who has missed his ankle. Four of the players in Smith's squad — John Koch, Jason Polak, Alistair Edwards and Alex Cummings — have spent most of this week at a training camp for the Australian Youth team.

Jim Tansey's team will have to be particularly wary of late goals from the Institute side which has proved adept at punishing errors in the last few minutes of its matches.

Table-toppers Polonia travel to the Ross Reserve on Sunday to play Springvale.

Springvale has failed to sparkle yet this season but it should be just a matter of time before the club's close-season signings mesh in and boost the side.

Miron Bleiberg's team, even without hot-shot Greg Wanzawski, was able to demolish Thomastown last weekend but could find a Springvale side revitalised by the return of Dragan Vasic more of a challenge.

Coach Bobby McLachlan only decided at the last moment to include Vasic in his line-up against Box Hill but the former JUST player showed that he is back in top form with a great display.

Still, Polonia has yet to lose a game this season and won't slip up this weekend so a draw is the most likely outcome.

St. Albans Dinamo which had a good win last weekend at Fawkner will be eager to continue its title challenge with a win over Frankston Pines at Churchill Reserve on Sunday.

Dinamo inflicted the first defeat of the season on Frank McAleer's side and is returning to its best form after a tem-

thought is a whole new ball-game when Pines' prodigal striker Dick is firing. Powering through from midfield he scored three last weekend against Broadmeadows and he'll be raring to net another couple to put him up amongst the league's top-scorers.

Still, Dinamo's front-runners Dennis Morovic and Goran Runje know how to put the ball in the back of the net too and I expect them to further press Dinamo's title claim with a victory.

After two consecutive home games Falcons travel to Par-

tridge Reserve on Sunday to play Thomastown.

Mike Lynn blames injuries for Thomastown's moderate performance so far this year. With Nino DiMartino and Robert Plianotto out and Kevin Carfara in doubt, Thomastown will have its back against the wall.

Falcons meanwhile have been threatening to score a lot of goals for a while now but things just haven't been coming together for Dave O'Connor's charges.

With two home draws against arguably the league's top teams — Polonia and Green Gully — Falcons will be itching to get their first victory for the season under their belts.

Falcons were unlucky not to win those last two games and it could be this weekend that the front-line hits its straps and lives up to its potential.

Here are this weekend's games with the likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY

Northcote v Box Hill at John Cain Reserve, 3 pm.
Oakleigh v WESTERN SUBURBS at Caloola Reserve, 3 pm.

SUNDAY

Broadmeadows v CAULFIELD at Laura Douglas Reserve, 3 pm.
Croydon v INSTITUTE OF SPORT at Town Park, 3 pm.

GREEN GULLY v Fawkner

at Green Gully Reserve, 3 pm.

Springvale v Polonia

at Ross Reserve, 3 pm.

ST. ALBANS DINAMO v Frankston Pines

at Churchill Reserve, 3 pm.

Thomastown v MORWELL FALCONS

at Partridge Reserve, 3 pm.

BEFORE THE GAME OR AFTER THE ONLY PLACE TO TALK SOCCER WITH THE PLAYERS, COACHES & CRITICS IS

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THURSDAY 8.30, SUNDAY 1.00,
 MONDAY 4.30

1000 SEASIDE RD, ARRLINGDALE, VIC 3081

Selections

here are this weekend's games in the Victorian, Provisional and Amateur Leagues with likely winners in capitals:

VICTORIAN DIVISION ONE
 Saturday: KNOX CITY v North Dandenong, ALTONA GATE v Bulleen, Melburn v Sunbury, HAMILTON BANGERS v Altona City, WESTGATE v Ringwood United, CLIFTON HILL v Prahran City, ELTHAM v North Geelong, MOORDBLANK v Mornington, Devonon v Sandringham (draw).

Sunday: RINGWOOD CITY v Richmond.

DIVISION TWO
 Saturday: Waverley City v Dandenong City (draw), HAMILTON BANGERS v Altona City, WESTGATE v Ringwood United, CLIFTON HILL v Prahran City, ELTHAM v North Geelong, MOORDBLANK v Mornington, Devonon v Sandringham (draw).

DIVISION THREE
 Saturday: KELLOR v Bell Park, Moreland P.R. v FERNETREE GULLY, MOORABBIN CITY v West Brunswick, Port Melbourne v YARRVILLE, Glenside v Springvale Utd (draw), GEELONG v Ross, Corio-Geelong Utd v YALLOURN.

Sunday: BOROMIA v Karlingald, COBURG v East Brunswick, HAWTHORN v Pascoe Vale, DIAMOND VALLEY Utd v Williamstown, HOLLAND PARK v Prahran, Kaysborough v Loral United (draw), Langsarra v SEFORD.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION ONE
 Saturday: Brighton v BALLARAT, PARRICK v Ararat, Central City v MCG.

Stefanovski sent off, shock for Melita, Inter bounces back

Wollongong Wolves lost their first match of the year and Melita Eagles suffered an unexpected defeat at the hands of Freshwater Warringah at Melita Stadium in a round of shock results.

Sutherland led 1-0 through Craig Hall at Seymour Shaw but lost its lead with only 10 minutes remaining. After scoring its first goal in the league, Sutherland is still without a win, but is also undefeated.

Uruguay paraded its star recruit Washington Gonzales at Cromer Park but to no avail. Mark Cimmarosti, Manly's 1987 sensation, scored in the dying seconds to give the Sea Eagles their third win in four matches.

Newcastle went down to Canberra at Adamstown, but few would deny the guts and enthusiasm of its young bunch of players. They fought well and looked set to take a point until very late in the match when Ray Juna ghosted in to score and give Canberra its second win of the year.

Later Monaro bounced back to form to beat Rockdale Ilinden in an evenly contested match.

Manly Warr 2 Uruguay 1

At Cromer Park.
Scorers: Barker 16th, Cimmarosti 85th (MW); McKie 17th (U).

Washington Gonzales, one-time star player with Nacional of Uruguay and Racing of Buenos Aires, faced Manly Warringah at Cromer Park. He came on as a substitute in the 55th minute and showed some nice touches, hitting the woodwork and exhibiting great ball control.

And while Uruguay's large following was admiring Gonzales, the locals had their own



NSW State Bank League with ALEX VESIC

here — 19 year old Mark Cimmarosti. He latched on to a pass from Etherington in the 89th to find the net and give Manly its third point of the season. It was Cimmarosti's fourth goal in as many games and he is now looming as the man to fear in this year's State League.

Geoff Barker gave Manly an early lead with a superb shot following a corner kick in the 16th. Only a minute later John McKie replied after some brilliant work by Aytke Genc. A volley by McKie was one of the best seen at Cromer Park and drew admiring applause from all sides of the ground.

And just when the crowd started to walk towards the exits, in came Robbie Stuart with a fine run then a pass to Etherington who in turn carried the ball to the bye-line then squared for Cimmarosti to find an open goal.

Wollongong 1 Blacktown 3

At Showground Wollongong.
Crowd: 1280
Scorers: Thornthwaite 2nd, Kay 40th, Jeffery 90th (B); Morlando pen 86th (W).

Eight yellow cards and one red was flashed at Wollongong Showground as Blacktown City Demons tackled Wollongong City Wolves for the top-of-the-table spot. And while the cards were evenly distributed, four a piece with one red going to Rade Ste-

fanovski of Wollongong, goals and points were gleamed by the visitors.

Late tackles and over-the-ball tackles were used during this fiercely fought contest with the referee losing control of this match during the second period. He booked Stefanovski on a linesman's say-so yet he failed to see the most blatant foul of them all — when Gary Byrne upended Pat Brodnik inside the area in the 83rd. The referee was only 10 metres away from the incident!

The referee broke out between McPherson and Morlando in the 80th, after the Wolves full-back attempted to steal possession of the ball. Fists were used and Morlando went down — yet only a free kick went to Blacktown!

Darren Northam was booked for time wasting and the game lasted 95 minutes with the last goal by Jeffery being scored on the bell!

Jeffery was involved in bringing down Roberto Giraldo midway through the first half and the yellow card was flashed. Then the same player was booked midway through the second half! In the confusion over the bookings it was Kurt Reynolds who copped the yellow for an offence by Jeffery. In fact the man who should have been sent off for his second offence got the goal which sealed the issue!

Now back to the cards. Hristovski, Dickson, Stefanovski and Coakley received cautions for Wollongong City and Reynolds, Northam, Jeffery and

Sandy for Blacktown. Rade Stefanovski was sent off for a tackle from behind on Jason van Blerk.

Blacktown City Demons had the better of the first half and scored early through Thornthwaite. There was an element of luck in this goal. A shot by Sandy rebounded off one player, hit Thornthwaite on the head, then sailed past the keeper!

Blacktown continued to play strongly but Wollongong City created chances on the break. Easthorpe was the main offender. He was facing McPherson in the 16th but only managed to pass the ball to the keeper. In the 20th, Pat Brodnik rose high to head past McPherson but Easthorpe got his boot in the way and sliced it past a post. In the 27th it was Giraldo's turn. His shot was blocked by the keeper, but the ball rolled kindly for the Wolves midfielder who struck it again but Maier was there to clear off the line.

For the visitors, only Brett Thornthwaite came close when he broke in from the left then unleashed a powerful drive which was brilliantly saved by Young.

Blacktown struck through Paul Kay close to half time. He beat the offside trap faced the keeper, walked around him, then tapped it into the net. Three chances to Blacktown and two goals. Three chances to Wolves and no goals.

John Fleming took Berringer and Hristovski off and brought on Dickson and Stefanovski, and it looked like the tonic Wolves needed. The home side spent almost the entire second period in the visitors' half of the park with drama unfolding inside the Demons penalty area.

Alex McPherson made two superb saves, one from a great header by Giacomo Morlando in the 52nd was an absolute gem to keep Wolves at bay. In the 54th and following a chip by David Sken it was Randall Easthorpe who raced into the clear but he failed to control the ball. In the 64th, Ainsworth hit the crossbar, Giraldo took the rebound but failed to put it past the diving body of McPherson.

When all looked lost, the home side scored through Brodnik but the referee blew his whistle to award a penalty, which was duly converted by Morlando.

In the final minute Jeffery raced away to round the keeper and make it 3-1.

Newcastle R 1 Canberra 2

At Adamstown.
Scorers: A Reis 25th, Juna 90th (CJ); M Drysdale 87th (NR).

An injury-time goal to Canberra decided the issue at Adamstown Oval to send Newcastle to its second successive home defeat.

Newcastle was set to share the points against the fancied visitors when Mark Drysdale rose at the far post to head past Economopoulos. A corner by John Cavanagh was followed by a flick header from Nigel Drysdale and his brother did the rest at the far post.

With three minutes to go, one would safely assume that both sides would settle for one point. However the minutes ticked away — one, two, then three minutes into overtime giving the referee for some earlier time wasting by the visitors. Then Canberra struck. A corner from the right hand side was neatly headed past Grills by Ray Juna and the players hardly had time to get back to the centre before the referee called for the end of the game.

For the home side, stricken with injuries, one point would have been more than sufficient. Mountford, Rowney and Foley pulled out with various complaints, from stomach upsets to bad backs, leaving Rosebuds to play with almost a complete youth side.

Canberra failed to capitalise early as the home side hit its straps. Against the run of play Canberra raced forward pressing Newcastle into conceding a corner kick in the 25th. A glancing header from Allan Reis at the near post hit the roof of the net to make it 1-0. Following this goal, Canberra put together a few posi-

Newcastle came back with gusto from the opening bell of the second period and created enough chances to run away with this game, but muffed them all and paid the penalty. Craig Penfold had the most glaring opportunity but failed to find the mark.

In the end, Canberra ran away with both points for the second week in a row just as all looked set for a draw. Palacios, Suarez and Gonzales looked well below the form of last week against Freshwater, with Suarez and Gonzales being replaced close to the end of the match.

Ray Juna was our man-of-the-match with Nigel Drysdale and Allan Reis not far behind with strong performances.

Melita Eagles 0 Freshwater 1

At Melita Stadium.
Scorers: Knight 45th.

Melita Eagles slumped to their first defeat of the 1987 State Bank League season and coach Dennis Hoggart must be worried about the inability of his strikers to put the ball in the net.

Melita had much of the play and managed to create a few good openings but to no avail as its players stumbled and fumbled in front of goal like novices. Paul McFadden was expected from Kurungai before the shot hit the woodwork bounced back to McFadden then off his feet and past the post!

One minute before half time, Brown managed to get through but his 12 metre shot sliced off the side of his boot.

Well, if you don't know how to score, Warringah Freshwater is in the mood for lectures. Steve Knight pounced on a long ball by Dennis Corrigan to head past the advancing Dragan Pupovac. The last seconds of the first half is not the time to concede goals but for Freshwater it was the tonic its players needed.

The second half saw the much better performance from Freshwater and the home side could not do much to improve the situation, despite its territorial advantage. Derek Laing, on for the injured Foxman, could have changed it all when he broke through in the 88th, but he failed to control the ball and that was it.

Lubko Gokovic has now strung together two good victories, beating Canterbury and Melita, with a defeat at the hands of Canberra in round three. He has assembled a pretty useful combination but says: "Freshwater's players will have a few more weeks to get fully fit."

He was impressed with Michael Kelly, Jimmy Campbell and Keith Warren, Freshwater's young custodian. Kelly played with a badly cut lip for more than 50 minutes, a legacy of an elbow in the opening minutes of play. John Foxman did not fare much better and will most probably miss a few matches due to a knee injury, thanks to a tackle.

Dennis Corrigan is the man who is likely to cause problems for any defence in this league. He erred here after a cross by Giannopoulos. His first shot was blocked on the line but he had a second bite of the cherry and yet again it was blocked — this time by the keeper.

Despite this miss which could have been costly, Corrigan shows a lot of pace and very accurate shooting. The Knight v Farrugia, Campbell v Wellbourn, Brown v Watt and Kelly v Foxman battles raged in earnest for most of this match with Freshwater players outfoxing their opponents on the day.

Ku-Ring-Gai 2 Macdonia 1

At Parklands.
Scorers: Barry 26th, Williamson pen 55th (K), Ruskin 46th (WM).

Kuringai returned to its



Melita Eagles midfielder Ray Farrugia — outfoxed by Steve Knight of Freshwater.



Goalkeeper Alex McPherson — made some brilliant saves for Blacktown against Wollongong.

form took the points after some fierce exchanges with Wollongong Macedonia.

The Chasers led at half time thanks to a well taken goal by Mike Berry.

Chris Quigley sent in a looping cross and Macedonia keeper Danny Bezimovski could not control the ball under challenge from Craig Bass. The ball dropped to the feet of Berry who wasted no time in parking his shot over the line.

With Bass and Jeffery cutting a swathe through the Macedonia defence, more was expected from Kurungai before half time. But it just didn't happen. In fact it was Macedonia in the very first minute of the second half that struck.

Corner from the right hand side by Phil Kerr was headed under the crossbar by Peter Ruskin 30 seconds after the restart to see the two sides even after 46 minutes.

However David Bennett broke through in the 55th then shot. His shot was blocked by a defender's hand and the referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot. Neale Williamson made no mistake with his spot kick and the Chasers were on their way.

The home side limped home in the last 15 minutes but all of the heartbreak in those closing minutes could have been avoided with better finishing.

A shot by Kevern in the 22nd was almost past Bezimovski, then another brave dive at the feet of Jeffery saved the day for the visitors. However, the best chance of the match fell to Glen Jeffery. It was Bass who broke through some poor tackling to wait his way into the six metre box then cut the ball back to Jeffery who scooped it over the bar from five metres.

Macedonia almost snatched one point with seven minutes remaining when Paul Giraldo crossed but with Phil Kerr rushing to effect a header it was Andrew Lacey who saved the day by diving full length to intercept.

Kuringai was strengthened midweek with the arrival of Don Campbell who last played for Penrith. One of the best defenders in NSW, Campbell is certain to close the gap left by the departure of Bertram and Watson.

Sutherland 1 Canterbury 1

At Seymour Shaw Park.
Scorers: Hall 8th, Andromidas 75th.

Craig Hall, one of the best players ever to come out of the Sutherland Shire, returned to football last Sunday to score the first goal of the league season for the Sharks. A Caban through ball saw the speedster race away to face Hummell and

made him one of the most feared strikers in the league.

It took Sutherland 278 minutes to notch its first goal, but it took even longer for one to be conceded. The State League's best goalkeeper in 1986, Craig Burroughs, could do little to stop an effort in the 75th. Zlatko Arambasic and Theo Andromidas struck the ball at the same time following a corner kick. Burroughs was beaten for the first time in 345 minutes!

The referee had an awful problem sorting out the goalscorer. After some deliberation he decided to give it to Theo Andromidas.

As for young Arambasic, he was full of running and is certainly a player to watch. He is quick, has a good shot and a fair amount of skill. Domagoj Kapetanovic, the coach who left Canterbury recently, was full of praise for the youngster.

Chris Hummell and John Radman were the other star performers for the visitors, while Sutherland had its best in Ball, Terry and Harrington.

John O'Shea and his brother Rob are slowly finding their feet at Sutherland and it is anticipated that when these two click we can expect big things from the Sharks. So far, the midfield is being well led by Mark Harrington and the defence by Peter Terry.

Inter Monaro 2 Rock Ilinden 0

At Queanbeyan.
Scorers: Gaggiotti 50th, Giampolo 86th.

"My kingdom for a striker!" yelled Ilija Takac, following his side's loss to Inter Monaro.


Playing with rare authority and poise Ilinden took Inter Monaro to task in the first period and looked set to take the points. That period Ilinden had three scoring chances to one of Inter Monaro's but still the scoreline at half time was 0-0.

Bruno Bedoni was the main offender missing two sisters. Inter Monaro scored through Joe Gaggiotti in the early period of the second half then took charge of the game.

Rockdale managed to get back into it for a spell and threw everything forward in the closing stages, but with little result as the Ilinden strikers kept firing blanks.

Sebastian Giampolo took his season's tally to two after scoring in the closing minutes against the run of play. For Takac it is going to be one of those seasons. He's looking for a genuine striker with Tony Genovese and an out-of-touch Risteovski the only current options. Sasha Spirovski and Bruno Bedoni are yet to make their mark in this competition.

Ilinden's plight has not been helped by the resignation of Si-



STATE BANK SOCCER LEAGUE

Sunday 12/4/87 K.O. 2.30pm

BLACKTOWN CITY — KU-RING-GAI,
Gabbie Stadium

MACEDONIA W'GONG — INTER MONARO,
Berkeley Oval

ROCKDALE ILINDEN — MANLY WARRINGAH,
Hurstville

URUGUAYAN PENRITH — MELITA EAGLES,
Cook Park

CANTERBURY — WOLLONGONG CITY,
Arlington oval

CANBERRA — SUTHERLAND,
Bruce Stadium

FRESHWATER — NEWCASTLE ROSEBUDS,
Graham Rosebud

State Bank League details

By
ALEX VESIC

Manly Warringah is among the leaders yet again.

Its unexpected solid form at the start of the season has brought last year's runner-up to within one point of the leaders after four rounds. Will Manly's dream run continue at Hurstville on Sunday?

If Wayne Pearce repeats last Sunday's effort and Cimarosti continues his form up front I'd have no doubt in offering Manly favoritism. It is however difficult to discount Ilinden at any time as it has many good players, but it must life its game if it is to succeed.

Blacktown City will have no end of trouble against Kuringai but will subdue this fighting outfit from the north, mainly due to superior speed and efficiency in the striking line.

Les Scheinflug will hope that his striking trio of Sandy, Thornthwaite and Van Blerk will destroy Pepper and Co. I believe that this much will be tight and Blacktown will just edge out Kuringai.

Macedonia Wollongong is overdue for a win in 1987.

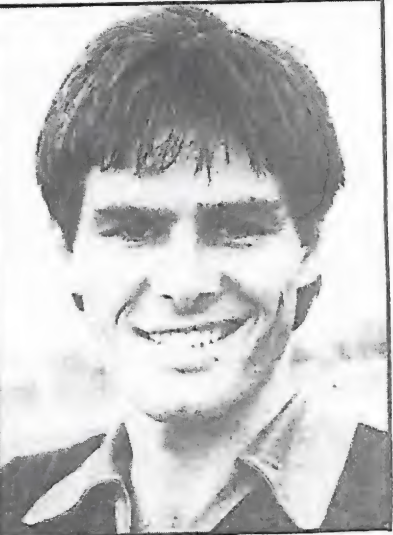
Inter Monaro however, is the most unpredictable team in the State Bank League. It is going to be one of the best score-draws of the week.

Uruguay, the team which recently dumped Auburn as part of its name, will be known as Uruguay-Penrith from this week on, and the reason for it is Cook Park. If you wish to have the use of the park it appears that you have to be prepared to be involved in the local community.

As a starting gesture, the club has been asked to change its name from Uruguay to Uruguayan Penrith. But whatever name it's called, Uruguay is in all sorts of trouble as it faces Melita Eagles.

Canterbury will have to work overtime to keep

Pearce and Cimarosti the threats to Ilinden



Adam Sandy — facing up to the Kuringai defence this weekend.

Wollongong Wolves at bay and Sutherland is in for yet another draw.

Freshwater and Newcastle are on the menu at Graham Reserve. I fancy the locals to surprise Newcastle.

This is the programme for this Sunday with likely

winners in capitals: BLACKTOWN v Kuringai, Macedonia v Inter (draw), Ilinden v Manly (draw), Uruguayan v MELITA, Canterbury v WOLLONGONG CITY, Canberra v Sutherland (draw), FRESHWATER v Newcastle.

State Bank League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
BLACKTOWN CITY	3	1	0	9	2	7
MANLY WARRINGAH	3	0	1	5	2	6
CANBERRA	2	2	0	5	3	6
WOLLONGONG CITY	2	1	1	8	5	5
Newcastle Rosebuds	2	0	2	6	6	4
Melita Eagles	1	2	1	6	6	4
Sutherland	0	4	0	1	1	4
Freshwater	2	0	2	5	6	4
Uruguayan Penrith	1	1	2	9	7	3
Ku-Ring-Gai	1	1	2	4	5	3
Rockdale Ilinden	1	1	2	4	6	3
Inter Monaro	1	1	2	7	11	3
Macedonia W'gong	0	2	2	3	5	2
Canterbury	0	2	2	4	8	2

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUDS 1 (M. Drysdale 87th) CANBERRA 2 (A. Reis 25th, Juna 90th) at Adamstown Oval. Crowd: 880.

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUDS: Grills 7, — Milosevic 7, M. Drysdale 7, Bailey 7, Roberts 7, — Casley 6, Gresham 6, N. Drysdale 6, Cavanah 7, Bowen 5 (McGuinness 78th), Penfold 6. CANBERRA GRIFIN: Economopoulos 7, — Bryant 7, Dunn 7, Suarez 6 (82nd Nelson), Mays 7, — P. Reis 6, Juna 8, Serrani 7, Palacios 7, — Gonzales 6 (82nd Willox), A. Reis 8. Best players: 3 Juna (CG), 2 N. Drysdale (NR), 1 A. Reis (CG).

WOLLONGONG CITY 1 (Marlando pen 86th) BLACKTOWN CITY 3 (Thornthwaite 3rd, Kay 40th, Jeffery 90th) at Wollongong Showground. Crowd: 1,280.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Young 7, — Skeen 6, Berringer 5 (Dickson 46th — 8), Hollifield 7, Marlando 7, — Giraldo 7, Ainsworth 5, Hristovski 4 (46th Stefanovski 7 — sent off 90th) Cookley 7, — Brodnik 6, Easthorpe 5. BLACKTOWN CITY: McPherson 7, — Maier 8, Sterey 8, Sashorpe 8, Northern 6, — Dwyer 6, — Jeffery 6, Kay 7, Eilem 5 (Byrne 46th — 5), — Sandy 6, Thornthwaite 7 (Van Blerk 73rd). Best players: 3 Maier (BC), 2 Dickson (WC), 1 Reynolds (BC).

MANLY WARRINGAH 2 (Barker 16th, Cimarosti 89th) URUGUAYAN PENRITH 1 (McKie 17th) at Cromer Park. Crowd: 500.

MANLY: Tingle 7, — Dennis 7, Pearce 8, Williamson 7, Mangham 7, — Stuart 7, Etherington 6, Juergens 6, — Cimarosti 6, Barker 6, Loughran 6, URUGUAYAN PENRITH: Hoare 8, — O'Donnell 7, Woods 7, Bourke 7, Tomasz 7, Kralovic 5 (Gonzales 55th — 6), Thompson 6, Genc 6, — Batten 6, Hunter 6, McKie 6. Best players: 3 Pearce (MW), 2 Hoare (U), 1 Stuart (MW).

MELITA EAGLES 0 FRESHWATER WARRINGAH 1 (Knight 45th) at Melita Stadium.

MELITA: Pupovac 6, — Williams 7, Cabassi 8, Meerani 8, — Callanan 6, Farrugia 6, Wellbourn 7, McFadden 5 (Vial 46th — 6), Serrbas 7, — Foxman 7 (Lang 57th — 6), Brown 6. FRESHWATER: Warren 8, — Dean 8, Kelly 8, Watt 7, — Gillan 7, Campbell 8, DeCeglie 7, Duckling 7 (Placer 80th), Knight 7, — Corrigan 6, Giannone 6 (Gale 75th). Best players: 3 Kelly, 4 Meerani, 1 Campbell.

KU-RING-GAI 2 (Berry 26th, Williamson pen 55th) MACEDONIA 1 (Ruskin 46th) at Parklands.

KU-RING-GAI: Lacey 8, Keven 7, Laurie-Smith 6 (55th D. Campbell 8), Pepper 7, Camburn 7, — Berry 7, Quigley 7, Bennett 7, Williamson 8, — Jeffery 7 (Nile 80th), Bass 8. MACEDONIA: Bezimovski 7, — Muhbauer 7, Campbell 6, Ruskin 8, Sweeney 6, — Dalkovski 7, Jirsa 6 (56th Tilt) Krikovski 6, (85th Bonetici), Kerr 6, — Gardner 6, P. Giraldo 5. Best players: 3 Williamson, 2 Bass, 1 Ruskin.

SUTHERLAND 1 (Hall 8th) CANTERBURY 1 (Andromidas 75th) at Seymour Shaw Park.

SUTHERLAND: Burroughs 7, — R. O'Shea 7, Ball 8, Terry 8, Seller 7 (Nelson 61st), — Harrington 8, Cox 7, J. O'Shea 7, Tasker 6, — Caban 6 (75th Sharpe), Hall 7. CANTERBURY: Hummel 8, — Vandarakis 7, Radman 8, Antoniadis 7, Mickovski 7, — George 6, Stamos 6 (Antonopoulos 55th — 8), Kalo-geras 6, Borges 5, — Andromidas 6 (87th Angelis), Arambasic 8. Best players: 3 Ball (S), 2 Arambasic (C), 1 Harrington (S).

INTER MONARO 2 (Gaggetti 50th, Giampaolo 86th) ROCKDALE ILINDEN 0 at Queanbeyan.

INTER MONARO: Line-up not available. ILINDEN: Barker 7, G. Wilson 7, Mitrovski 7, Boogard 7, D. Wilson 7, — Nastovski 7, Darlington 6, Rodas 6, — Spirovski 5, Genovese (Nikolovski 5th — Risteovski 46th — 8), Bedoni 5.

Second Grade

Newcastle — Canberra 0-5, Wollongong — Blacktown 0-3, Kuringai — Macedonia 2-0, Inter-Ilinden 1-3, Manly — Uruguay 0-2, Sutherland — Canterbury 1-4, Melita — Freshwater 5-1.

Second Grade standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
URUGUAYAN PENRITH	4	0	0	10	1	8
BLACKTOWN CITY	3	1	1	14	3	7
MELITA EAGLES	3	0	1	20	2	6
KU-RING-GAI	3	0	1	5	2	6
Sutherland	3	0	1	11	9	6
Freshwater	2	1	1	11	7	5
Macedonia	2	0	2	3	7	4
Rockdale Ilinden	1	1	2	3	5	3
Newcastle	1	0	3	3	9	2
Canterbury	1	0	3	3	9	2
Wollongong City	1	0	3	2	8	2
Canberra	1	0	3	6	13	2
Inter Monaro	0	1	3	3	16	1

Second Division

Campbelltown — Fairy Meadow 0-4, Queens Park — Yugal 2-0, Macabi — Dee Why 2-3, Avala — Polonia 1-1, Gladesville — North Sydney 2-1, Kingsford — Bathurst 1-4, Blacktown — North Bankstown 2-4.

Second Division standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MACCABI	3	2	0	8	3	7
POLONIA	2	2	0	13	3	6
FAIRY MEADOW	2	1	1	5	4	5
NTH BANKSTOWN	2	1	1	3	3	5
Kingsford	2	0	1	4	3	4
Yugal	2	0	2	4	3	4
Queens Park	1	2	1	3	3	4
Dee Why	0	3	0	4	4	3
Avala	1	1	2	2	3	3
Bathurst	1	0	3	4	9	2
Nth Sydney	1	0	3	4	8	2
Blacktown	1	0	3	3	8	2
Campbelltown	1	0	3	2	9	2
Gladesville	1	0	3	2	9	2

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RUSH STARTS THE ROUT

Wales, inspired by an early goal from striker Ian Rush, overwhelmed Finland with a powerful display of attacking soccer as it romped to a 4-0 victory to go top of its European championship qualifying group last week.

Rush struck after only eight minutes when he found the net with a perfect half-volley from Robbie James' cross from the right and further goals followed from winger Glyn Hodges, midfielder David Phillips and debutant striker Andy Jones.

The victory lifted Wales level on points with Czechoslovakia and Denmark in group six. All three have three points from two games, but Wales leads on goal difference.

Rush, who joins Juventus of Italy from Liverpool at the end of the season, gave Wales the perfect start with his 13th goal in 31 international, but its hopes were temporarily rocked only four minutes later when central defender Pat Van Den Hauwe collided with Ari Hjeltnes and was carried off.

Midfielder Mark Aizlewood came on as substitute and quickly settled into his unfamiliar role as Wales continued to confine the Finns to rare breakaways.

Hodges grabbed Wales' second and his first for his country in the 29th minute after two Rush shots had been blocked.

Knowing a three-goal margin would carry it to the top of the group, Wales pushed forward incessantly and several shots were saved and blocked before Phillips volleyed home his third from Kenny Jackett's low drilled cross.

The Finns almost snatched one back in the 79th minute when Phillips had to clear off the line, but Wales was unperturbed and Jones grabbed an opportunistic fourth goal three minutes from time.

TEAMS: WALES: Southall — Blackmore, Van Den Hauwe (sub Aizlewood 11), Ratcliffe, Jackett — Phillips, Nicholas, James, Hodges — Rush, Jones.

FINLAND: Laukkanen — Pekonen, Ikalainen, Europaeus, Petaja — Turunen, Holmgren, Taurainen, Rantenen — Tialinen, Hjeltnes.

England established itself as a clear favourite to qualify for the European championship finals from group four when it beat Northern Ireland 2-0 in very comfortable style.

First-half goals by captain Bryan Robson and winger Chris Waddle enabled it to take an early grip on the match and Northern Ireland, which battled fiercely without reward, rarely was allowed any chance to claw its way back.

Though England's performance did not compare with its impressive form in winning 4-2 in Spain last month, there still were sufficient pointers to suggest that it is developing into one of the most powerful sides in Europe at present.

Robson opened the scoring in typical manner in the 18th minute, in the process calming England's stretched nerves at the end of a fraught opening period.

The goal came from a long throw by Gary Mabbutt, headed on by Terry Butcher, the England captain heading in his 19th international goal from close range.

Northern Ireland, reduced by injuries, had launched several determined attacks in the

opening stages, but Robson's goal settled England and it was little surprise when Waddle ran on to a diagonal pass from the impressive Peter Beardsley to score with a well-struck drive from 20 metres.

England, badly missing gifted midfielder Glenn Hoddle, failed to produce much inspiring soccer after the interval when it held the initiative and the game petered out tamely with substitute goalkeeper Chris Woods replacing influenza victim Peter Shilton for the second half.

England manager Bobby Robson said afterwards he was reasonably satisfied with the result. He said: "Northern Ireland had their best period early on, but after that our first goal changed the face of the game."

"We were never in trouble again and although the second half was not so inspiring I am reasonably satisfied."

He said he was not prepared to talk about a bomb attack 100 metres from the entrance to the Windsor Park Stadium shortly before the game. He said: "I am a soccer manager, not a bomb disposal expert."

NORTHERN IRELAND: Dunlop — Fleming, Donaghy, McClelland, McDonald — Ramsey, Campbell, McCreery, Wilson — Whiteside, Worthington.

ENGLAND: Shilton — Anderson, Sansom, Mabbutt, Wright — Butcher, Robson, Hodge, Beardsley — Lineker, Waddle.

Here are all of last week's results:

GROUP ONE

Spain beat Austria 3-2 (half-time 1-1). Scorers: Austria — Manfred Linzmaier (39th minute), Toni Polster (64). Spain — Jose Eloy (31, 58), Francisco Carrasco (90). Attendance: 41,000.

Group One standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Spain	3	0	0	6	3	6
Romania	2	0	1	9	2	4
Austria	1	0	5	7	2	2
Albania	0	0	3	2	10	0

Remaining fixtures: April 29 - Albania v Austria, Romania v Spain, Oct 14 - Spain v Austria, Oct 28 - Albania v Romania, Nov 18 - Spain v Albania, Austria v Romania.

GROUP FOUR

England beat Northern Ireland 2-0 (half-time 2-0). Scorers: Bryan Robson (18th

minute), Chris Waddle (43). Attendance: 35,000.

Group Four standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
England	3	0	0	7	0	6
Yugoslavia	1	0	1	4	2	2
Turkey	0	1	0	4	1	1
N. Ireland	0	1	2	0	5	1

Remaining fixtures: April 29 - Northern Ireland v Yugoslavia, Turkey v England, Oct 14 - Yugoslavia v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, Nov 11 - Yugoslavia v England, Northern Ireland v Turkey, Dec 16 - Turkey v Yugoslavia.

GROUP SIX

Wales beat Finland 4-0 (half-time 2-0). Scorers: Ian Rush (Eighth minute), Glyn Hodges (29), David Phillips (64), Andy Jones (87). Attendance: 7694.

Group Six standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Wales	1	0	0	5	1	3
Czechoslovakia	1	0	0	3	0	3
Denmark	1	0	1	0	3	1
Finland	0	1	3	1	9	1

Remaining fixtures: April 29 - Wales v Czechoslovakia, Finland v Denmark, June 3 - Denmark v Czechoslovakia, September 9 - Finland v Czechoslovakia, Wales v Denmark, October 14 - Denmark v

Wales, Nov 11 - Czechoslovakia v Wales.

GROUP SEVEN

Bulgaria beat Ireland 2-1 (half-time 1-0). Scorers: Bulgaria — Anto Sadkov (41st minute), Lachezar Tanev (82nd, Pen), Ireland — Frank Stapleton (52nd min). Attendance: 35,000.

Belgium beat Scotland 4-1 (half-time 1-1). Scorers: Belgium — Nico Claessen (8th minute, 55, 85), Frank Vercauteren (72), Scotland — Paul McStay (13). Attendance: 26,550.

Group Seven standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Belgium	2	2	0	13	4	6
Bulgaria	1	2	0	3	2	4
Ireland	1	2	1	4	4	4
Scotland	1	2	4	5	4	4
Luxembourg	0	2	0	9	0	0

Remaining fixtures: April 29 - Ireland v Belgium, April 30 - Luxembourg v Bulgaria, May 20 - Bulgaria v Luxembourg, May 28 - Luxembourg v Ireland, Sept 9 - Ireland v Luxembourg, Sept 23 - Bulgaria v Belgium, Oct 14 - Scotland v Belgium, Ireland v Bulgaria, Nov 11 - Belgium v Luxembourg, Bulgaria v Scotland, Dec 2 - Luxembourg v Scotland.

Overnight Spurs in Africa?

With all England's other major clubs eliminated, Tottenham Hotspur finds itself installed as overwhelming favorite to lift the FA Cup for what would be a record eighth time.

Spurs ooze talent throughout their line-up. Thirty-six-year-old Ray Clemence remains a world-class goalkeeper, Scottish international Richard Gough has quickly proven himself one of the best central defenders in the English League since moving from Dundee United last July, and England international midfielders Glenn Hoddle and Gary Mabbutt feature in a midfield which also contains the evergreen Osvaldo Ardiles. Up front, Clive Allen has been scoring goals with astonishing regularity this season and, on his day, the enigmatic Chris Waddle can mesmerise any defence.

The playing personnel of semi-final opponent Watford is less impressive, but it does include the brilliant John Barnes (who, rumors persist, will soon be on his way out of Italy), robust striker Luther Blissett and the reliable Mark Falco — a Tottenham player until late last year and obviously keen to prove a point or two at Villa Park.

If Watford can reproduce the fighting form which enabled it to topple Arsenal in the quarter-finals, it has an excellent chance of completing an admirable double elimination of North London's giants.

The other semi-final match is Coventry City with Leeds United.

Coventry has never previ-



Overseas round-up with PAUL MOON

ously appeared at this stage, but will be fancied to reach Wembley.

The Sky Blues' major claim to fame is a 20-year-long unbroken stint in Division One, during which they time and time again produced last-ditch, Houdini-like escapes from relegation.

Throughout this season, though, Coventry has been positioned in the top half of the table and under the energetic back-room team of manager George Curtis and coach John Sillett, the Midlands have developed into a very solid unit.

City's line-up does not boast any household names, but it includes two of British domestic soccer's most respected players in Brian "Killer" Ilicic, a very rugged central defender, and robust striker Cyrille Regis, who is desperately unlucky not to have won more than four English international caps.

The rest of the side is made up of complete journeymen, most of whom are currently producing the best form of their careers, and the whole should overcome the last obstacle on the road to Wembley-Leeds United.

Leeds was England's premier side just over a decade ago, before a prolonged decline swept it into Division Two.

Now, the best known member of the Leeds staff is manager Billy Bremner — a dynamic midfielder with Leeds during its heyday. Of the contemporary Leeds team, only the names of goalkeeper Mervyn Day (England's third string 10 years ago) and former Manchester United striker Andy Ritchie mean much beyond Yorkshire.

United's league performances this season have only given the occasional glimpses of hope for an early revival and suggest that the Cup run is merely an aberration rather than the springboard for a genuine resurgence.

Coventry, then, will be expected to win at Hillsborough and should be competitive enough to have a real chance of lifting the Cup at Wembley, irrespective of which opponent it faces.

The Watford V Arsenal game will be played this Sunday morning (Australian time) and the Leeds United V Coventry City match kicks off 24 hours later.



Spurs goalkeeper Ray Clemence — he's facing up to Watford in the FA Cup semis this weekend.

DIEGO'S A DAD!

Argentine star Diego Maradona last week became a father when his long-time companion Claudia Villafane gave birth to a daughter.

A hospital spokesman said the baby had been named Dalma Maradona.

The mother was reported in good condition following the birth, at the Clinica Del Sol in Buenos Aires. Maradona, whose team Napoli is aiming to win the league championship for the first time in its history, is currently in Italy. He sent Villafane a large bouquet of flowers, the hospital spokesman said.

Another Dutch star will join AC Milan

● Ajax Amsterdam officials have confirmed that Dutch international striker Marco van Basten, Europe's top scorer last season, will join compatriot Ruud Gullit at AC Milan in June. The size of the transfer fee was not revealed, but is believed to be less than the \$US5,500,000 Milan paid PSV Eindhoven for Gullit.

● Turkey gained a heartening 3-1 victory over East Germany in a non-championship international at Istanbul.

● In Poznan, Poland beat Norway 4-1, as both teams prepared for upcoming European Championship fixtures.

● The draw for the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup is: Dundee United v. Dundee, Hearts v. St. Mirren. Both games will be played this Sunday morning (Australian time).

● Former Arsenal and Elire defender John Devine has been forced, at the age of 28, to quit the game because of complications which arose from a broken leg sustained last year. He has been with Stoke City for just over 15 months.

● The ever-improving Czechoslovakia defeated Switzerland 2-1 in a friendly international at Bellinzona.

● Yugoslavia boosted its morale for forthcoming European Championship battles with an emphatic 4-0 win over Austria in a non-championship international at Banja Luka.

● Israel, yet again, showed its fighting qualities when holding World Cup runner-up West Germany to a 0-2 scoreline in Tel Aviv. Olaf Thon and Lenard Matz scored the goals.

has signed for Arsenal in a \$1,600,000 transfer. He will, however, remain with relegation-threatened Leicester, on loan, until the end of the current English season.

Dennis gets the boot!

Southampton defender Mark Dennis, who has one of the worst disciplinary records in English soccer, was dismissed by the club last week only a week after rejecting three possible transfers.

Dennis, sent off 10 times in his professional career, has appeared before the English Football Association (FA) disciplinary committee twice this season and is due to appear again later this month. He has been at Loggerheads with the First Division club and manager Chris Nicholl, whom he criticised in a recent newspaper

ANOTHER BLACK DAY FOR FIJI

Touring Fiji players drank alcohol and fought each other at their Brisbane Motel before flying home last week, the Fiji Times reported.

A window at the suburban Moorooka Motel was smashed and star midfielder Ivor Evans suffered a gashed left arm in one incident involving team-mate Kelemadi Vouaga, the newspaper reported.

Evans was taken to hospital and had eight stitches in the wound. Fiji Times reporter Haroon Khan, who accompanied the players on their controversial three-match tour of Queensland, said they had "once again blackened their name overseas."

Similar incidents on a tour of New Zealand in 1985 led to the Fiji Football Association paying damages to an Auckland Motel and Evans being suspended from international matches.

Tour manager Jahir Khan said he was "disgusted" with the behaviour of some players and would recommend that they never again be considered for overseas tours.

Khan named nine players he said faced disciplinary action, including one who was missing from the Fiji team camp on several nights and was involved in the motal fight.

ugly scenes with two Fiji players red-carded and coach Billy Singh alleged to have struck a linesman.

"Most of the team was drunk when it boarded the plane for Fiji last week after a drinking spree," Khan wrote.

In Suva, association secretary J D Maharaj said that "everything was settled" concerning damage at the motel before the team left. Pending officials' reports, he said the association would have to "put its foot down" and discipline players even if it meant weakening the side for a year or more.

"Perhaps we have been too lenient in the past," he said.

The Fiji Times said in an editorial that the players had dishonored their country and called on the association to postpone all tours until it had a team that knew what constituted gentlemanly behaviour.

In recent years, Fiji players have forfeited a South Pacific Games final to French Polynesia when the match was abandoned and the referee assaulted, and have misbehaved both on and off the field against New Zealand.

apart from losing all three matches without scoring a goal, players were involved in a number of drunken incidents.

The Fiji Football Association had to apologise and pay \$A2,080 in compensation.

In domestic competitions, things aren't much better. Only last weekend, a match between Suva and Nasinu was held up for seven minutes by a free-for-all between players from both sides, with some spectators joining in, after the referee disallowed a Suva goal.

In another match, three players for the Valslevu club were sent off after attacking a Mandir opponent who was taken to hospital.

In yet another foul-ridden game, between Arsenal and Marist St Columbus, the referee handed out yellow cards like a poker dealer and sent off one player who punched a rival in the face.

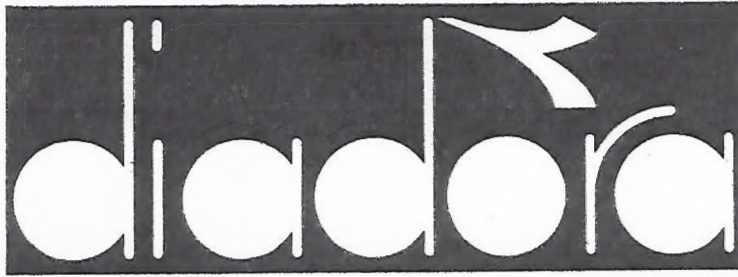
Tournaments in Fiji are often blatantly "fixed" with lowly-rated teams, for example, being paid to lose heavily to allow opponents to qualify for play-offs on goal average.

The Fiji Football Association has frequently deplored the practice — but has taken no action to stop it.

In the care this year of former Socorro coach, West German Rudi Gutendorf, Fiji had hopes of a happier season internationally — until the Queensland flare-up.

As a result, FIFA barred Fiji for a year from playing in future international.

Gutendorf chose not to accompany the team to

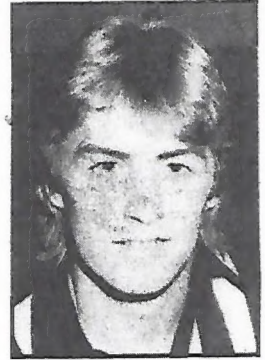


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Ο ΜΑΝΩΛΗΣ Ανεξάρχης υπέγραψε το νέο το
συμβόλαιο με την ΕΛΛΑΣ Μελοβόρνη.
Ο νεαρός Έλληνας αμυντικός που έχει
γαλώσει στο Μίντι Παρκ, έδειξε για μι
ακόμη φορά το ήθος του, διαέκρινε
και την υπομονή του, καθώς γιατι
χει την ΕΛΛΑΣ στην καρδιά του.

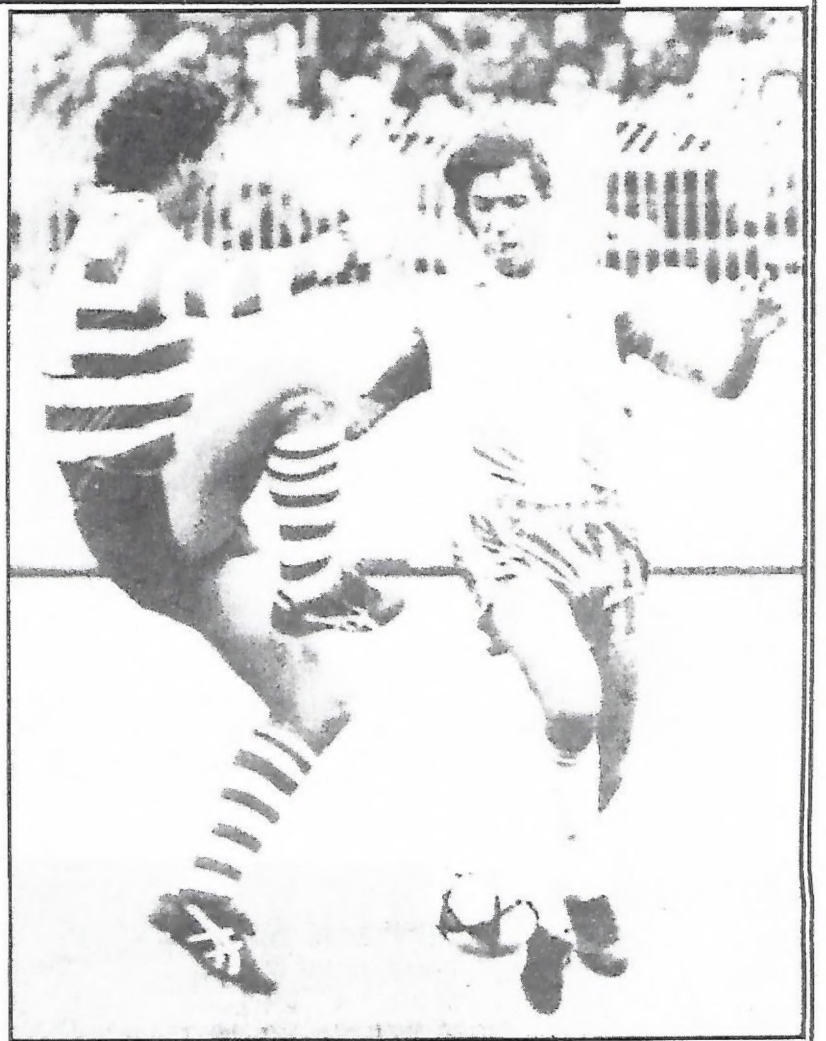
Η ΔΕΞΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΑΚΑΝ

ΟΜΟΡΦΕΣ κορίτσια περνούσε οι φίλοι

SCORES AND LADDERS

Victoria

VIC THREE										
Yarraville	2	0	0	6	2	4				
Rosanna	2	0	0	4	1	4				
Geelong	2	0	0	4	1	4				
Kellie	2	0	0	4	1	4				
Bell Park	2	0	0	4	1	4				
Springvale Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Clarendon	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Morland Park Rgr	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Port Melbourne	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Yallourn	0	1	2	4	1	1				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
West Brunswick	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Corio/Geelong	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Lyonside Utd	0	2	0	5	0	0				
F.T. Gully	0	2	0	5	0	0				
VIC FOUR										
Lalor Utd	2	0	0	3	1	4				
Williamstown	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Seaford Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Prarhan	1	0	0	5	4	3				
West Brunswick	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Kellie	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Clarendon	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Port Melbourne	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Morland Park Rgr	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Geelong	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Bell Park	0	0	2	1	3	0				
VIC FIVE										
Corio/Geelong	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Rosanna	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Springvale Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Clarendon	1	0	0	5	4	3				
West Brunswick	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Kellie	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Clarendon	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Port Melbourne	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Morland Park Rgr	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Geelong	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Bell Park	0	0	2	1	3	0				
VIC SIX										
Corio/Geelong	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Rosanna	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Springvale Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Clarendon	1	0	0	5	4	3				
West Brunswick	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Kellie	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Clarendon	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Port Melbourne	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Morland Park Rgr	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Geelong	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Bell Park	0	0	2	1	3	0				



● Fernando Gomes (right) star striker of reigning Portuguese champion Porto braces himself for what looks like being a colossal challenge from Sporting defender Joao Luis last weekend. Sporting won the match 2-0.

VIC SEVEN										
Corio/Geelong	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Rosanna	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Springvale Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Clarendon	1	0	0	5	4	3				
West Brunswick	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Kellie	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Clarendon	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Port Melbourne	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Morland Park Rgr	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Geelong	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Bell Park	0	0	2	1	3	0				
VIC EIGHT										
Corio/Geelong	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Rosanna	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Springvale Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Clarendon	1	0	0	5	4	3				
West Brunswick	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Kellie	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Clarendon	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Port Melbourne	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Morland Park Rgr	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Geelong	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Bell Park	0	0	2	1	3	0				

VIC NINE										
Corio/Geelong	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Rosanna	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Springvale Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Clarendon	1	0	0	5	4	3				
West Brunswick	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Kellie	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Clarendon	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Port Melbourne	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Morland Park Rgr	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Geelong	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Bell Park	0	0	2	1	3	0				
VIC TEN										
Corio/Geelong	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Rosanna	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Springvale Utd	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Clarendon	1	0	0	5	4	3				
West Brunswick	1	0	0	5	4	3				
Moorabbin City	0	2	0	5	0	0				
Kellie	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Clarendon	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Port Melbourne	0	1	1	4	5	1				
Morland Park Rgr	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Geelong	0	0	2	1	3	0				
Bell Park	0	0	2	1	3	0				

Uruguayan World Cup star Enzo Francescoli is unhappy with French club Racing Paris and wants to leave, the player said in an interview published in Buenos Aires last weekend.

FRANCESCOLI SLAMS RACING PARIS!

Racing Paris is languishing in 16th place in the 20-club French first division. Francescoli said he wanted to move to another European club. "I'd like to play in Italian football, or in a good Spanish club," he said. He said that although he had very good memories of his time at River Plate, he ruled out a return to Argentina. They would not be able to pay the fee, he said. Francescoli, 1985 South American footballer of the year, moved from River to Racing for \$US2.5 million (\$A3.5 million) after the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico. An attacking midfielder, Francescoli had a disappointing World

MITCHELL BOOSTS ENTRANCE

Australian international David Mitchell continued his excellent form in the West German Bundesliga on the weekend when he helped Eintracht Frankfurt to an emphatic 4-0 thrashing of Borussia Moenchengladbach. Mitchell scored once as Frankfurt wrecked Gladbach's preparations for its UEFA Cup semi-final against Dundee United this week.

All the goals came in 34 minutes in the second-half, including a brace for Polish striker Janusz Turkowski. Mitchell was part of the Socceros' World Cup campaign during 1985, excelling during matches against Israel and Scotland where he was spotted by West German talent scouts. Soccer journeymen made a name for themselves on the weekend as they dominated scoresheets in other European league competitions.

Former England international Tony Woodcock contributed one goal to FC Cologne's 3-1 victory over Hamburg, as it continued to thrive without disgraced goalkeeper Harald Schumacher, moving up two places to fifth. Napoli continued move slowly but surely to its first-ever Italian First Division title this weekend when it shared a goalless draw away at Empoli, despite the brilliance of Argentine star Diego Maradona. His probing, inch-perfect passes often had the home defenders at full stretch, but despite all his magic the leader failed to take its chances.

The reinstated Scottish striker Steve Archibald set Barcelona on the way to a 4-0 victory at Atletico Madrid with a goal after nine minutes and Barcelona added three more in the second-half through Carrasco, Ramon Caldera and England international Gary Lineker with his 17th of the campaign.

THE WEST END NATIONAL LEAGUE

ROUND 3 — 12 APRIL



FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T
VS
STH MELB HELLAS

SUNDAY, SCHINTLER RES
K.O. 2.30pm



DANNY WRIGHT



FAB INCANTALUPO

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS
VS
SYDNEY OLYMPIC

SUNDAY, OLYMPIC PARK NO. 1
K.O. 2.30pm



PETER RASKOPOULOS



CHRIS KETSAKIDIS

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER
VS
A.P.I.A.

SUNDAY, OLYMPIC VILLAGE
K.O. 2.30pm



PETER KATHOLOS

ST GEORGE vs MELBOURNE CROATIA
ST GEORGE STADIUM FRIDAY 10/4/87 K.O. 7.15pm

SYDNEY CROATIA vs SUNSHINE GEO. CROSS
CROATIAN SPORTS CENTRE SUNDAY K.O. 2.30pm

ADELAIDE CITY vs MARCONI
FIELD SUNDAY K.O. 2.30pm